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STARS AND STRIPES®

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stripes.com

Free to Deployed Areas

Kabul attack hits US agency, day care center

Foreigners escape charity guesthouse; 1 Afghan child killed

By AMIR SHAH
The Associated Press

KABUL — Taliban militants attacked the residence of an American charity and a nearby day care center in Kabul on Friday, sparking a three-hour gunbattle that unfolded as foreigners, including women and children,

fled the scene, officials said.

The assault, which killed an Afghan girl caught in the crossfire, comes as foreigners have been increasingly targeted in the Afghan capital as part of an overall surge in violence ahead of April 5 elections.

Authorities offered conflicting information as they worked to secure the area, but all agreed the violence

started when a suicide bomber blew himself up in front of the gate of a guesthouse being used by the California-based Roots of Peace group. The organization specializes in land mine removal and agricultural development and advises Afghanistan's Agriculture Ministry.

SEE ATTACK ON PAGE 4



Commandos with Afghanistan's intelligence agency arrive after four insurgents armed with assault rifles and hand grenades attacked a U.S. charity in Kabul on Friday.

ANJA NIEDRINGHAUS/AP



'It's just a waste'

Veteran suicides come into focus on Capitol Hill | Page 2

Members of the Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America planted 1,892 flags on the National Mall in Washington on Thursday — one for each veteran or servicemember estimated to have committed suicide so far in 2014.

C.J. LIN/Stars and Stripes

4 'librarians' at core of AF cheating flap

By ROBERT BURNS
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Investigators dubbed them "the librarians," four Air Force nuclear missile launch officers at the center of a still-unfolding scandal over cheating on proficiency tests.

"They tended to be at the hub" of illicit exchanges of test information, said Adam Lowther, one of seven investigators who dug into details of cheating that has embarrassed the Air Force and on Thursday brought down virtually the entire operational command of the 341st Missile Wing at Malmstrom Air Force Base, Mont.

At least 82 missile launch officers face disciplinary action, but it was the four "librarians" who allegedly facilitated the cheating, in part by transmitting test answers via text message.

One text included a photo of a classified test answer, according to Lt. Gen. Stephen Wilson, who announced the probe's findings Thursday.

Wilson said the four junior officers were at "the crux of it," and that three of the four also are accused of illegal drug activity.

The rest of the accused either participated in cheating or were aware of it but failed to blow the whistle, Wilson said.

SEE CHEATING ON PAGE 4

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"I only weigh 98 pounds. I'd like to be a little fleshier. Maybe get my teeth fixed and buy a new car."

— Georgia Bell, 91, discusses what she might do if she had extra cash, even though she has repeatedly turned down a developer's offer to buy her \$93,500 home for \$600,000

See story on Page 9

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5. Nine nuclear missile wing leaders fired; commander resigns

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Science & Medicine

The Big Bang Theory gets a big boost



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MILITARY

Bill aims to prevent veteran suicides

By C.J. LIN
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — A new bill aimed at improving suicide prevention for veterans was introduced in the U.S. Senate on Thursday as nearly 2,000 flags were planted within view of the Capitol — each one representing a current or former servicemember who committed suicide so far this year.

Sen. John Walsh, D-Mont., the first Iraq War combat veteran elected to the Senate, introduced the Suicide Prevention for America's Veterans Act. The bill includes provisions extending combat eligibility for health care from five years to 15 years and establishing a process for reviewing potentially wrongful discharges and reversing those which may have been caused by mental health issues.

Those who served in a theater of combat operations after Nov. 11, 1998, and were discharged on or after Jan. 28, 2003, currently have special eligibility to enroll in the VA health care system for five years from their date of discharge or release, according to the Department of Veterans Affairs. The VA estimates that 22 veterans from current and previous wars die by their own hand each day. In an Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America survey of its membership this year, 47 percent said they knew a veteran of the two post-9/11 wars who had attempted suicide.

"That's an epidemic that we cannot allow to continue," Walsh said. "I think we all know a friend, a family member, a neighbor, a colleague that has been affected by this terrible tragedy."

In an effort to visualize the number of troops who have committed suicide, IAVA members and supporters planted 1,892 flags on the National Mall hoping that the field of red, white and blue would bring the problem to the attention of those strolling the grassy expanse.

"I'm hoping it'll just be a powerful visual for the scope of this issue," said Jeff Hensley, a Navy veteran of 21 years and an IAVA member who was planting flags. "(For) most of us that are veterans and are closely connected with veterans ... it's personal to us. But outside of our community, I don't think the rest of the country really



PHOTOS BY C.J. LIN/Stars and Stripes

Members of the Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America plant 1,892 flags on the National Mall in Washington on Thursday.

understand. Seeing something like this, it brings it home to the average person who may not have a direct connection."

The event was part of IAVA's annual "Storm the Hill" campaign, which brings veterans to Washington to meet with leaders on veterans policies. Suicide prevention tops IAVA's 2014 agenda, and the group is pushing for the legislation to be passed by Memorial Day.

"It's going to provide urgent care for people that these folks have been fighting for, that the folks represented by the flags ... could not get," said Paul Rieckhoff, IAVA founder and CEO.

Rieckhoff urged Democratic and Republican lawmakers to work together on what he called "a national priority."

"It's a public health challenge. It's a security imperative. It's a moral imperative," he said.

For Hensley, who was among the "stormers," the bill — which was designed by the IAVA based on veterans' needs — offers a number of provisions that are promising for improving access and quality of care.

"It's one thing to go out and reach out for help, it's another thing to actually get help that is informed and based on best practices," said Hensley, a counselor at an equine-assisted therapy program for veterans in Texas. "It really can make a difference."



Navy veteran Jeff Hensley helps unfurl flags.

The bill also calls for increasing mental health professionals in the VA, ensuring training for mental health providers, improving suicide prevention programs, decriminalizing suicide attempts and more collaboration between the VA and the Defense Department. IAVA is hoping to connect one million veterans to suicide prevention resources this year.

"If they can get help, it can prevent that," Hensley said. "It can

change the entire trajectory of somebody's life. I think of the 8,000 veterans killing themselves every year, then I think what difference it could have made if they had gone on, got that little bit of help, changed the course of their lives and had so much more to offer to all of us. It's just a waste."

For more information, visit stormthehill.org.

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MILITARY

Records: Man who shot sailor was felon

BY BROCK VERGAKIS
AND MICHAEL FELBERBAUM
The Associated Press

NORFOLK, Va. — The Virginia truck driver who killed a sailor aboard a naval destroyer served prison time for manslaughter and drugs, but it was still unclear what led him onto the base earlier this week.

The Navy identified the shooter Thursday as Jeffrey Tyrone Savage, 35, of Chesapeake, Va., but officials were still searching for clues about the shooting.

Savage was killed by Navy security forces Monday night aboard the USS Mahan after he took a gun from a petty officer who was on watch for the ship and used it to shoot Petty Officer 2nd Class Mark Mayo, who was providing security at Naval Station Norfolk. Navy officials have said there's no indication the attack was planned or had any link to terrorism. Navy investigators have also said there's no indication Savage had any previous relationship with the ship or anyone on it.

Officials here said Savage drove his tractor-trailer cab onto base, walked onto a pier and up a ramp toward the ship before being confronted by security. The Navy has said Savage shouldn't have been allowed on the installation the night of the shooting, and investigators were looking into why he was let on the base.

The credential Savage used to gain access — a Transportation Worker Identity Credential — is issued by the Transportation Security Administration and is valid for five years. The Navy said the card alone doesn't authorize base access. People also have other documents to gain entry, including a manifest of items to be delivered or a receipt indicating an item to be picked up, said Beth Baker, a spokeswoman for the Norfolk-

based Navy Region Mid-Atlantic. People with criminal records for certain crimes are allowed to have a TWIC card as long as they have been out of prison for at least five years, according to the TSA's website. However, applicants can also apply for a waiver.

Since the TWIC program started in 2007, about 132,000 people were disqualified and about half of those who appealed or asked for waivers received them.

The Navy said Savage worked for Majette Trucking, which is based in Rich Square, N.C. A message left with the company Thursday was not immediately returned.



Savage

and released from prison Dec. 30, 2009, records showed.

Savage and the victim were riding in a vehicle in 2005 when they began to struggle over a weapon and it fired, hitting the victim, who was then left on the side of the road, according to Keith Acree, of the North Carolina Department of Public Safety.

Savage was also sentenced in Virginia in 1998 for possession with intent to distribute crack cocaine. He served nearly five years in federal prison, according to Chris Burke, a spokesman for the Federal Bureau of Prisons.

Savage also spent two years in federal prison beginning in 2010 after his supervision was revoked and was transferred a halfway house in February 2012, Burke said.

Hagel to host Asia meeting

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel will travel to the Pacific next week to convene a meeting of defense ministers from Asia against the backdrop of the massive regional response to the loss of the Malaysian jetliner.

Pentagon press secretary Rear Adm. John Kirby said Thursday that Hagel will also stop in Japan and travel next week to convene a defense chief to China and Mongolia. He visited Japan late last year.

Kirby said the expansive search for Flight 370 is an example of nations in the region coming together to deal with a disaster, adding that the U.S. is looking for ways to improve its ability to work with other Asia-Pacific militaries.

In addition to military operations, there are "many things short of conflict that militaries routinely participate in together, including humanitarian assistance and disaster relief," Kirby told Pentagon reporters. He said Hagel is "keen to get into a broader, deeper dis-

cussion about how we can improve those capabilities as well and interoperate between partners and friends."

The U.S. is hosting the meeting of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, which will take place in Hawaii next week. The effort is part of the Pentagon's ongoing effort to expand its presence and activities in the Pacific region. Military leaders have also been trying to improve U.S.-China relations, which have run hot and cold as the years amid persistent U.S. complaints about Beijing's lack of transparency regarding its escalating investment in military spending as well as its aggressive pursuit of territorial claims in the seas of East Asia.

China's recent declaration of an air defense zone over disputed islands controlled by Japan in the East China Sea and its new rules to regulate fishing in a huge portion of the South China Sea have deepened concerns that its rise as a regional power could spark a confrontation.



Photos courtesy of the U.S. Navy

Susan Craig, right, a former U.S. Marine Corps pilot, and Maj. Heath Ruppert, left, Craig's former co-pilot, applaud a group of Djiboutian soldiers who on Tuesday were awarded the Civilian Award for Humanitarian Service at Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti.

Marines, rescuers reunited

Djiboutians honored for helping victims after 2006 military helo crash

BY JOHN VANDIVER
Stars and Stripes

STUTTGART, Germany — As Staff Sgt. Luke Thompson examined the letter written in broken English, the first thing that jumped out was the date: Feb. 17, 2006.

The note, passed to him by a Djiboutian soldier in October, continued: "smoke, fire, crash of two helicopter."

"I have been rescue pilots," it read. "One man, one girl."

Thompson instantly recognized what the Djiboutian was talking about. In 2006, Thompson was supposed to be on one of the two U.S. Marine Corps CH-53 helicopters that collided off the coast of Djibouti. The crash killed 10 servicemembers, including two airmen Thompson had been training. Only two Marines survived the crash.

"It was just a chance encounter," said Thompson, now a civil affairs team sergeant, in a phone interview. "He (the soldier) didn't know if the two had survived. He was happy just to hear that."

The chance meeting between Thompson and Sgt. Younis Ahmed Douleh in October at a Djiboutian army English-language course set in motion a plan to formally recognize the rescuers and reconnect them with the two Marines they helped.

On Tuesday, Younis along with Djiboutian army Capt. Hoc Omnar Darar, Cpl. Youssouf Agada Said and Sgt. Ahmed Abdillahi Djama received the Civilian Award for Humanitarian Service at a ceremony at Camp Lemonnier, the U.S. military base at Djibouti's international airport.

Susan Craig, a former Marine Corps pilot, and her co-pilot, Maj.



Staff Sgt. Luke Thompson holds a letter with Djiboutian army Sgt. Younis Ahmed Douleh after the ceremony.

Heath Ruppert, flew in from the United States to meet with their rescuers.

"Eight years ago, this accident happened and we've talked about these folks so many times," Craig said during a phone interview. "Who are they? Where are they now? They were our heroes that day."

On the day of the crash, Craig remembers landing in water and swimming ashore. "We escaped drowning, but our adrenaline started to wear off and we were feeling the effects of the trauma," she said.

Set against mountainous terrain, the Marines had difficulty establishing contact with the U.S. military camp. Meanwhile, the hours passed and night was setting in. They began to fire flares, eventually drawing the attention of some Djiboutians in the distance. Although the soldiers didn't speak English, it was clear they were trying to help.

"They were the most compassionate people you could think of," Ruppert said. "They offered water, gave us first aid. Another

was making radio calls. We could tell they were there to support and take care of us."

The Djiboutians then carried the Marines a half-mile through rough terrain to reach the landing zone to meet a rescue team. When it arrived, the soldiers loaded them onto the aircraft, Ruppert said.

But the Djiboutians never learned the fate of the Marines they rescued.

"I really wanted to meet those people," said Younis, whose translated statement was provided by Combined Joint Task Force Horn of Africa. "The last thing I remember was that they were in the helicopter and it disappeared. Since that day, I don't know what was going on."

For years, Younis carried his letter around, passing it to Americans he encountered. But no one ever seemed to know what the cryptic note was about.

For Thompson, it was pure luck that he wasn't on the flight back in 2006. Initially slated to ride along for a training exercise, a last-minute change in plans resulted in him staying on base. "I sent two of my airmen up with the helicopter and later on, I got a call that they (headquarters) hadn't heard from them," Thompson said. "I immediately got launched on the rescue and recovery effort."

Having lost so many comrades in the crash that day in 2006 remained etched in his memory. After meeting Younis years later, he wanted to make sure the U.S. military recognized the Djiboutian troops for aiding the Marines. "I just felt that it was a deed that needed to be recognized," Thompson said. "They did a great thing for those pilots."

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MILITARY

Attack: Taliban official vows to 'keep on killing foreigners'

FROM FRONT PAGE

Roots of Peace issued a statement saying the attack started about 6 p.m. and focused on its residence and a nearby day care center in the Kart-e-Char neighborhood, an affluent area in western Kabul located near the parliament.

It said there apparently were casualties at the day care center, and that five attackers and one child have been confirmed killed. It said two Afghan security guards and one foreigner also were wounded.

The U.S. Embassy in Kabul said in a tweet that the group was supported by the U.S. Agency for International Development. It condemned the attack "on an organization that only seeks to help Afghans improve their lives and livelihood."

Mohammad Sharif Osmani, the country director for the group, said six staff members, including four foreigners and two Afghans, had been trapped inside. He was reached while in the hospital with an Afghan colleague who was wounded and had to hang up before he could give more details.

About two dozen foreigners, including women and children, fled the area after the attack began Friday evening, Afghan Interior Ministry spokesman Seddiq Sed-

diqui said. He said another foreign compound was next door and it was unclear how many people had been trapped inside the Roots of Peace house.

Seddiqi said that besides the suicide bomber, four gunmen also had been killed, ending the standoff about 8 p.m.

Deputy Interior Minister Mohammed Ayub Salangi said an Afghan girl who happened to be nearby was killed during Friday's battle. Seddiqi said an Afghan woman and a driver had died. The discrepancy could not immediately be determined.

It was the latest in a series of high-profile attacks targeting places long considered safe havens for Westerners in the country.

Gunmen who evaded tight security last week sneaked into a luxury hotel in Kabul with pistols and ammunition hidden in their shoes, killing nine people, including two Afghan children, who were dining in the restaurant.

A Swedish journalist also was shot to death on the street in a relatively affluent area earlier this month, and a Lebanese restaurant popular with foreigners was attacked by a suicide bomber and gunmen in January.

The Roots of Peace director did not identify the nationalities



ANJA NIEDERHANS/AP

Afghan special forces move in Friday after four insurgents armed with assault rifles and hand grenades attacked an "office of foreigners" in a southwestern neighborhood of Kabul, Afghanistan

of the workers inside the building, but Salangi said at least three were believed to be Americans.

Members of the Afghan National Police rapid reaction force, wearing helmets and bulletproof vests, cordoned off the area.

Witnesses said several houses caught on fire, possibly from the car bomb blast.

Mohammed Sadi, a resident in the area, said the force of the ex-

plosion rattled buildings several blocks away and broke windows in his house. "Then gunfire started and the police blocked all the roads," he said.

The upscale neighborhood is home to some of the candidates in next month's elections for president and provincial council. It didn't appear that they were the targets, although the Taliban have stepped up their attacks ahead of

the April 5 polling.

Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid said insurgents attacked a "guest house of foreigners and a church of foreigners." His claim could not be immediately confirmed.

"Attacks will continue and we will keep on killing foreigners," he said in a statement to the media.

Cheating: Investigator says no evidence of dishonesty at other ICBM bases

FROM FRONT PAGE

Lowther said the investigation team examined evidence from cellphones suspected of being used to transmit the offending text messages but was unable to interview the accused because all four obtained legal counsel at the outset of the probe.

In response to the scandal, the Air Force fired nine midlevel commanders at Malmstrom and announced it will pursue a range of disciplinary action against the accused 82, possibly to include court-martial. A 10th commander, as the senior officer at the base, resigned and will retire from the Air Force.

Air Force officials called the discipline unprecedented in the history of America's intercontinental ballistic missile force. The Associated Press last year revealed a series of security and other problems in the ICBM force, including a failed safety-and-security inspection at Malmstrom, where the exam cheating occurred.

Lowther said the investigation team interviewed missile launch officers and others at the Air Force's two other ICBM bases and found no indication of cheating.

"Folks clearly crossed the line at Malmstrom," Lowther said in a telephone interview. He is a faculty member at the Air Force Research Institute at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.

The investigators found what Lowther described as "a per-

'We're not just putting a fresh coat of paint on these problems. We're taking bold action.'

Lt. Gen. Stephen Wilson
Commander of Global Strike Command

sistent cultural problem" inside the ICBM force — a perception among the crews "that you don't want to be there," in part because of a sense that the mission is not highly valued.

In an emotionally charged resignation letter titled "A Lesson to Remember," Col. Robert Stanley, who commanded the 341st Missile Wing at Malmstrom, lamented that the reputation of the ICBM mission was now "tarnished because of the extraordinarily selfish actions of officers entrusted with the most powerful weapon system ever devised by man."

Stanley, seen as a rising star in the Air Force, had been nominated for promotion to brigadier general just days before the cheating scandal came to light in January. Instead he is retiring, convinced, as he wrote in his farewell letter Thursday, that "we let the American people down on my watch."

Separately, another of the Air Force's nuclear missile units — the 90th Missile Wing at F.E. Warren Air Force Base, Wyo.

announced that it had fired the command overseeing its missile squadrons. It said Col. Donald

Holloway, the operations group commander, was sacked "because of a loss of confidence in his ability to lead."

The 90th Missile Wing offered no further explanation for Holloway's removal and said it "has nothing to do" with the firings announced by the Air Force in Washington.

Together, the extraordinary moves reflect turmoil in a force that remains central to American defense strategy but in some ways has been neglected. The force of 450 Minuteman III missiles is primed to unleash nuclear devastation on a moment's notice, capable of obliterating people and places halfway around the globe.

In a bid to correct root causes of the missile corps' failings — including low morale and weak management — the Air Force also announced Thursday a series of new or expanded programs to improve leadership development, to modernize the three ICBM bases and to reinforce "core values," including integrity.

Air Force Secretary Deborah Lee James, the service's top civilian official, told a Pentagon news

conference that a thorough review of how testing and training are conducted in the ICBM force has produced numerous avenues for improvements.

"We will be changing rather dramatically how we conduct testing and training going forward," while ensuring that performance standards are kept high, James said. More funds will be invested in refurbishing the underground ICBM launch control centers and making other infrastructure improvements, she added.

Wilson, head of all Air Force nuclear forces as commander of Global Strike Command, said the changes in training and testing will be far-reaching.

"We're not just putting a fresh coat of paint on these problems," he said. "We're taking bold action."

James had promised to hold officers at Malmstrom accountable once the cheating investigation was completed and the scope of the scandal was clear. None of the nine fired commanders was directly involved in the cheating, but each was determined to have failed in his or her leadership responsibilities.

Wilson said investigators determined that the cheating, which officials originally said happened in August or September last year, began as early as November 2011 and continued until November 2013.

A total of 100 missile launch crew members were identified as potentially involved in the cheat-

ing, but nine were cleared by investigators. Another nine of the 100 are being handled separately by the Air Force Office of Special Investigation; eight of those nine involve possible criminal charges stemming from the suspected mishandling of classified information.

The cheating involved unauthorized passing of answers to exams designed to test missile launch officers' proficiency in handling "emergency war orders," which are messages involving the targeting and launching of missiles.

Nine key commanders below Stanley were fired, including the commanders of the 341st Wing's three missile squadrons, each of which is responsible for 50 Minuteman 3 nuclear missiles.

Also sacked were the commander and the deputy commander of the 341st Operations Group, which oversees all three missile squadrons as well as a helicopter unit and a support squadron responsible for administering monthly proficiency tests to Malmstrom's launch crews and evaluating their performance.

No generals are being punished. Maj. Gen. Michael Carey, who was fired in October as commander of the 20th Air Force, which is responsible for all three 150-missile wings of the ICBM force, is still on duty as a staff officer at Air Force Space Command but has requested retirement, his request is being reviewed.

NATION



President Barack Obama signs the Affordable Care Act in the East Room of the White House in Washington on March 23, 2010.

J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE/AP

Pol: Obama health law failing to gain support

BY RICARDO ALONSO-ZALDIVAR
AND DENNIS JUNIUS
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Public support for President Barack Obama's health care law is languishing at its lowest level since passage of the landmark legislation four years ago, according to a new poll.

The Associated Press-GfK survey finds that 26 percent of Americans support the Affordable Care Act. Yet even fewer — 13 percent — think it will be completely repealed. A narrow majority expects the law to be further implemented with minor changes, or as passed.

"To get something repealed that has been passed is pretty impossible," said Gwen Sliger of Dallas. "At this point, I don't see that happening."

Sliger illustrates the prevailing national mood. Although a Democrat, she's strongly opposed to Obama's signature legislation. But she thinks "Obamacare" is here to stay.

"I like the idea that if you have a pre-existing condition, you can't be turned down, but I don't like the idea that if you don't have health insurance, you'll be fined," said Sliger.

The poll was taken before Thursday's announcement by the White House that new health insurance markets have surpassed the goal of 6 million sign-ups, so it did not register any of the potential impact of that news on public opinion. Open enrollment season began with a dysfunctional HealthCare.gov website last Oct. 1 but will end Monday on what looks to be a more positive note.

Impressions of the health care rollout while low, have improved slightly.

While only 5 percent of Americans say the launch of the insur-

Obama: More than 6M signed up for coverage

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama's health care overhaul, long on track after a stumbling start, has reached a milestone, with more than 6 million Americans signed up for coverage through new insurance markets.

The announcement Thursday — four days before open enrollment season ends Monday — fulfills a revised goal set by the Congressional Budget Office and embraced by the White House, which has been working vigorously to implement Obama's most significant first term achievement.

Achieving the 6 million level

was a relief to congressional Democrats, who passed the measure. The law remains unpopular with the American public, and Republicans are making its repeal their rallying cry in the upcoming November elections.

Like much else about Obama's health care law, the 6 million level comes with a caveat: The administration has yet to announce how many consumers actually closed the deal by paying their first month's premium. Some independent estimates are that as many as 10 percent to 20 percent have not paid, which would bring the total enrollment to between 5 million and 6 million people.

Thursday, five Democratic senators and one independent — three facing re-election — introduced a package of changes to the law that seems calibrated to public sentiment. One of their major proposals would spare companies with fewer than 100 employees from a requirement to provide coverage to their workers. The current cutoff is 50.

The AP-GfK Poll was conducted March 20-24 using KnowledgePanel, GfK's probability-based online panel designed to be representative of the U.S. population. It involved online interviews with 1,012 adults and has a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 3.4 percentage points for all respondents.

Repealing the health care law is the rallying cry of Republicans running to capture control of the Senate in the fall congressional elections. The Republican-led House already has voted more than 50 times to repeal, defund or scale back "Obamacare," but has been stymied in its crusade by Democrats running the Senate.

Obama seeks quick end to NSA phone records program

BY EILEEN SULLIVAN
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama has asked Congress to end quickly the government's bulk collection of Americans' phone records, which could be a big ask for lawmakers who don't often move quickly without a looming deadline.

Responding to public outrage over the National Security Agency program, the Obama administration on Thursday came up with a new program that it says would address privacy concerns and would preserve the government's ability to fight terrorism.

Under the proposal, Congress has three months to draft and pass a measure to end the bulk collection program. The Obama administration has asked the court to reauthorize that collection for another three months while lawmakers consider an alternative. Under the current system, the government gets court approval every three months to collect all call records from certain phone companies daily.

The real looming deadline for action is June 1, 2015. That's when the section of a law that has been used to authorize the program is set to expire. The Obama administration could continue to seek court approval to collect the phone records five more times before the law expires.

Obama could have ended the bulk collection program now, said

Sen. Patrick Leahy, Democratic chairman of the Judiciary Committee and a proponent of changing NSA surveillance programs. The administration said it sought reauthorization for another 90 days to maintain its counterterrorism capabilities until a new program was in place.

Congress has been debating what to do about this once-classified program since last June, when former NSA systems analyst Edward Snowden revealed details about the massive surveillance operation. Dozens of bills have been introduced, and the issue has caused divisions even within political parties.

Finding consensus on how to change the program could take most, if not all, of the 430 days that Congress actually has. During that time period, many members of Congress are up for re-election, and the primary campaign for the next presidential race will be underway.

Until now, many thought Congress would most likely let the phone records collection program expire next year.

"I think that the administration was under the gun to come up with something that might satisfy those who want to see the end of the program, such that they could avoid that result in 2015," said Kevin Bankston of the New America Foundation, a nonpartisan think tank.

House OKs bill to stop cut to Medicare docs

WASHINGTON — Legislation to give doctors a yearlong reprieve from a looming 24 percent cut in their payments from Medicare overcame turbulence in the House on Thursday and appears on track to clear the Senate next week, possibly by hours before a Monday midnight deadline.

The bill passed the House Thursday on a surprise voice vote after an hour-long delay signaled GOP leaders were having difficulty mustering the two-thirds vote to pass the bill under fast-track procedures. Prominent Democrats withheld support, as did a host of rank and file Republicans, which led top leaders in both parties to call off a roll call vote and

to ease the measure through with a wink and a nod.

The vote was engineered by Majority Leader Eric Cantor, R-Va., with cooperation from top Democrats, particularly Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi of California.

It came after several leading Democrats weighed in against the bill, which would "patch" the Medicare fee system for 12 months. They complained that the temporary measure would set back efforts to find a permanent fix for the program's flawed Medicare payment formula, which has bedeviled lawmakers for more than a decade. There is widespread support for legislation to permanently solve the problem, but no agreement on how to pay for it.

From The Associated Press

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NATION

Senators urge end of deal for Russian helos

By RICHARD LARDNER

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Seeking stiffer penalties against Moscow, a group of senators called on President Barack Obama Thursday to respond more forcefully to the incursion into the Crimean Peninsula by terminating the remainder of a \$1 billion contract to buy helicopters from Russia.

Dozens of members of Congress have long pushed for the end of the Pentagon's contract with Russia's arms export agency, Rosobornexport. Russia's

"illegal invasion of Ukraine and annexation of Crimea" provides an even broader reason to kill the deal, 10 senators wrote in a letter to Obama.

The eight Republicans and two Democrats also want Obama to impose sanctions against any future U.S. business with Rosobornexport. They describe the export agency as "unsavory" because it has supplied Syrian President Bashar Assad's military forces with arms and ammunition that have been used against Syrian civilians.

"Rosobornexport is an arm

of the Russian government and a powerful instrument of (Russian President) Vladimir Putin's increasingly belligerent foreign policy, and it handles more than 80 percent of Russia's weapons exports," the senators wrote.

By obstructing Rosobornexport's business, "we would increase the costs of Putin's aggression," the letter said. The senators said ending the contract would limit the income corrupt Russian officials earn by skimming the profits of arms deals.

The Pentagon is buying the Mi-17 transport helicopters for

Afghanistan's national security forces. About two dozen remain to be delivered of 63 helicopters ordered, according to the senators' letter.

While acknowledging Rosobornexport's arms sales to Syria are deplorable, U.S. military officials have defended the Mi-17 contract. They've maintained the Russian helicopter is ideally suited for the Afghans, who are rebuilding their air force and need a reliable and easy-to-operate helicopter for transporting troops throughout the country.

The Pentagon and the Army of-

fice in Huntsville, Ala., that manages the contract did not respond to questions The Associated Press sent earlier this week about the contract's terms and whether military officials have considered cancelling it due to the crisis in the Crimean Peninsula.

Two Republican senators who signed the letter, John Cornyn of Texas and Dan Coats of Indiana, had wanted to use the Ukrainian aid bill as the vehicle for terminating the Mi-17 contract and sanctioning Rosobornexport. But an amendment to the bill they drafted has yet to be considered.

Senate panel vote on CIA study delayed

By DAVID LIGHTMAN
AND JONATHAN S. LANDAY
McClatchy Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — Senate Intelligence Committee Democrats, locked in an unprecedented power struggle with the CIA, have added substantially to the material they want made public from their study of the agency's use of waterboarding and other harsh interrogation methods on suspected terrorists, committee chairwoman Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., said Thursday.

"It has been expanded," she told McClatchy.

Feinstein did not say what had been added, but others said the expansion added 100 pages to what originally was the study's 300-page executive summary. The expansion will delay a vote that Feinstein had promised by the end of March to send the document to an executive branch declassification review.

That would be the final step in the process of releasing the executive summary of the four-year investigation into the detention-and-interrogation program. The

full report, which cost \$40 million and runs in excess of 6,300 pages, likely won't ever be released. The panel completed work on the report in December 2012.

Feinstein said the declassification vote now likely will be April 3.

"The reason for the delay is a couple of members wanted more time to go over the material," she said.

Feinstein and several other committee members said that the addition of new material to the executive summary has been completed, though Sen. Saxby Chambliss of Georgia, the committee's top Republican, said "it's been a constant product in motion."

Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine, agreed more time was needed to read the revamped version. After all, she said, "It's a work in progress."

Sen. Jay Rockefeller, D-W.Va., said the holdup is partly because some members want more time to read the report, and partly because some Republicans "object to everything."

GSA official fired after Nev. conference reinstated

By LISA REIN

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — The General Services Administration has been ordered to reinstate a senior executive who was fired after a spending scandal revealed a culture of excess at the agency.

James Weller, a retired Army colonel who was in charge of federal buildings for GSA's Southwest region, lost his job in 2012 amid revelations that a Las Vegas "training" conference was little more than an extravagant junket for 300 employees.

But a Merit Systems Protection Board judge ruled that GSA officials failed to prove that Weller, 60, was guilty of misconduct. While he attended the four-day

Western Regions conference in 2010 and flew to Las Vegas for one of eight dry runs to plan it, he was not involved in the planning nor aware that taxpayers paid \$823,000 for the event, the judge ruled. He awarded Weller 19 months of back pay.

"Outside of his appearance at the final 'dry run' meeting, the appellant possessed no knowledge regarding the [planning meetings] until well after the fact, and thus was not in a position to contest or otherwise limit the travel costs associated with their frequency and composition," Administrative Judge Ronald Weiss wrote in a 38-page decision released in March.



IDA MAC ASTUTE, ABC/AP

ABC News' Diane Sawyer speaks with New Jersey Governor Chris Christie at his home Thursday in Mendham, N.J.

Feds, others still probe NJ traffic-jam plot

By ANGELA DELLI SANTI

The Associated Press

TRENTON, N.J. — Investigations by federal authorities and New Jersey legislators are continuing to delve into a traffic-blocking operation near a major bridge, even as Gov. Chris Christie's own probe has concluded that he was not involved in the plot.

Politically connected New York lawyer Randy Mastro released a report exonerating Christie on Thursday, 10 weeks after the Republican governor's office commissioned his firm to conduct an internal review. The two other investigations are looming.

The U.S. attorney's office launched a criminal investigation into the scheme, which created gridlock in Fort Lee, the town at the base of the George Washington Bridge, to retaliate against its Democratic mayor for an unknown transgression. A parallel investigation by a state legislative panel is trying to find out how high up Christie's chain of com-

mand the order to shut traffic lanes went, and why. Federal investigators are also looking into an allegation that Christie cabinet members threatened to withhold Superstorm Sandy recovery funds from a flooded city if the mayor did not approve a favored redevelopment project.

Mastro's taxpayer-funded report concluded "there is not a shred of evidence" the governor knew what aides Bridget Kelly in the governor's office and David Wildstein at the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, the agency that runs the bridge, were plotting. The report pins blame for the plot on Kelly and Wildstein — as Christie had done previously — and says a political motive is apparent. The report also concluded that allegations by Hoboken Mayor Dawn Zimmer that Sandy aid was being held hostage to a redevelopment deal are "demonstrably false."

Democrats immediately blasted the findings, with the party's national committee calling the report

"nothing more than an expensive sham." New Jersey state Sen. Loretta Weinberg, co-chairwoman of the legislative committee investigating the same issues, said it "raises more questions than answers." Zimmer called the report "sadly predictable" and a "one-sided whitewash."

Though Mastro defended the validity of the report at the outset of an hourlong news conference carried live on national television, he was asked to explain how a lawyer commissioned by the governor could produce an unbiased report on the governor and his staff.

Mastro, who identified himself as a Democrat, also was quizzed about his ties to his ex-boss, former New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, who has been one of Christie's staunchest defenders on Sunday talk shows since the scandal broke in January. In addition, Democrats questioned the thoroughness of any review completed without cooperation from the key players involved.

NATION



MARK MULLIGAN, THE (EVERETT, WASH.) HERALD/AP

A searcher walks amidst a massive pile of debris at the scene of the deadly mudslide in Oso, Wash.

Searchers rely solely on digging

Rescuers try to narrow list of missing after mudslide; death toll remains at 17

By MANUEL VALDES
AND MATT VOLZ
The Associated Press

DARRINGTON, Wash. — There is only one way searchers are narrowing the list of 90 people still missing seven days after a landslide obliterated the mountain community of Oso, by digging.

There are no more phone calls being made out of the Snohomish County Emergency Operations Center to determine whether someone on the list were away and just haven't checked in since the March 22 slide, and there are no house checks in nearby neighborhoods to see if someone might have been missed.

Authorities said Friday morning the death toll remained at 17, with additional bodies located but not counted, after preparing the public for a significant spike in reported fatalities.

Snohomish County District 21 Fire Chief Travis Hots said confirmation first must come from the medical examiner's office, which is going through the slow process of identifying the bodies, and new information will be released Friday evening.

"We understand there has been confusion over the reported number of fatalities," Hots said Thursday night in a statement. "This has been a challenging process for all of us." He continued to insist the searchers might still find survivors, though that belief appeared to be waning.

"I want to bare everybody that the chance is very slim," Hots said. "But we haven't given up."

The possibility that dozens more people could be buried in the debris pile besides the bodies already found has the potential to place Oso, with a total population of about 180, among the worst tragedies in Washington state history.

The 1980 eruption of Mount St. Helens killed 57 people, and a 1910 avalanche near Stevens Pass swept away two trains and killed 96.

"We do know this could end up being the largest mass loss of Washingtonians," Gov. Jay Inslee said Thursday. "We're looking for miracles to occur."

Besides the 90 missing, authorities are



TED S. WARREN/AP

A search-and-rescue worker carrying a probe wades through water covering Washington Highway 530 on Thursday.

checking into 35 other people who may or may not have been in the area at the time of the slide. A group of people with the county emergency operations center is now making calls to eliminate that more speculative list, said Marybeth O'Leary, a spokeswoman for the emergency operations center.

"They are names that are not complete names," she said. "They're things like, I work with a guy named Bill. He didn't show up to work today."

The governor has asked for more federal assistance, saying \$4.5 million was expected to be spent on the response to the mudslide. Inslee's request was to expand Monday's federal emergency declaration that provid-

ed response teams and equipment.

Rain fell on the searchers Thursday, but the water levels on the eastern side of the slide area receded and uncovered flattened homes and crushed cars that previously had been inaccessible. An inch more was in the forecast for Friday.

Boats searched the area with dogs and crews inserted underwater cameras into vehicles to see if anybody was inside. Excavators pulled one car out of the muck, but it was unclear if they had discovered anybody inside.

The searchers walked on plywood pathways to keep from sinking into the sucking slurry. The moisture made the already treacherous surface even more unstable for workers exhausted after days of searching.

"If you could imagine houses, trees and a bunch of mud put in a blender, run for a bit and dumped back on the ground, that's what it looks like," said Washington National Guard Master Sgt. Chris Martin.

It's not only the people who are showing signs of strain. The dogs leading searchers to possible human remains can sense stress, incident spokesman Bob Calkins said. They also can become bored by the repetition, and their handlers must take them away from the work area for a time, he said.

"The real key is for the handlers to stay positive because stress on the part of the handlers goes right down the leash to the dogs," Calkins said.

The county medical examiner's office has so far formally identified five victims: Christina Jefferds, 45, of Arlington; Stephen A. Neal, 55, of Darrington; Linda L. McPherson, 69, of Arlington; Kaylee B. Spillers, 5, of Arlington; and William E. Welsh, 66, of Arlington.

The body of Jefferds' granddaughter, 4-month-old Sanoah Huestis, was found Thursday, said Dale Petersen, the girl's great uncle.

Petersen said he arrived on the scene to help look for survivors to find that work had stopped. A firefighter informed him and others that the infant had been found, Petersen said.

Five people injured by the mudslide remain in a Seattle hospital, including a 5-month-old boy in critical condition.

Investigation far from over in Houston oil spill

By PAUL J. WEBER
The Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — The barge operator that spilled nearly 170,000 gallons of tarlike oil into the Houston Ship Channel, closing one of the nation's busiest seaports for several days, will be fined by Texas regulators regardless of the outcome of state and federal investigations.

Investigators are still trying to pinpoint the cause of last weekend's accident involving a barge owned by Houston-based Kirby Inland Marine Corp., but Texas law considers the company carrying the oil a responsible party, said Greg Pollock, deputy director for the Texas General Land Office's oil spill response division.

"What that will be now I can't say because we don't have a closed case," Pollock said.

It won't be the first fine for the company, which has paid more than \$51,000 for at least 77 spills since 2008, most of which were minor incidents.

The March 22 accident closed the main artery linking the area's busy ports with the largest petrochemical complex in the country. The channel in Texas City, about 45 miles southeast of Houston, typically handles about 70 ships and 300 to 400 tugboats and barges a day and sees more than

'Sometimes it can take years. Sometimes they can do it a lot quicker.'

Jim Crawford
retired Coast Guard officer

200 million tons of cargo move through each year.

The channel wasn't fully reopened until late Thursday. At its height, the closure stranded some 100 vessels.

"As long as the weather holds up, we can get caught up in a couple days," said Capt. Clint Winegar, of the Houston Pilots, an association of sea pilots.

The Coast Guard is investigating the accident with an assist from the National Transportation Safety Board, said Cmdr. Gary Messmer, the Coast Guard's chief of prevention for the Houston-Galveston sector. He noted that investigators were reviewing communications recordings between ships and doing interviews.

But what is known is that two barges and a towboat were leaving Texas City and heading for the Intracoastal Waterway, which is designed exclusively for barges, while an inbound ship was traveling through the Houston Ship Channel. The collision occurred when the barges made a left turn to enter the Intracoastal Waterway and were crossing the ship channel.

It is unclear whether the barge hit the ship or the other way around, Messmer said.

The Coast Guard has given no timeline on when its investigation might be finished, and NTSB spokesman Peter Knudson said he didn't know how long his agents would be on the scene.

Experts say not to expect a conclusion soon.

"Sometimes it can take years. Sometimes they can do it a lot quicker," said Jim Crawford, a retired Coast Guard officer now with Ohio-based Introtech, which reconstructs accidents. "It just depends on the workload and the amount of personnel that they have and the complications they face."

NATION

Plant dumps million jars of peanut butter in NM landfill

By JERI CLAUSING
The Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — Nearly a million jars of peanut butter are being dumped at a New Mexico landfill to expedite the sale of a bankrupt peanut-processing plant that was at the heart of a 2012 salmonella outbreak and nationwide recall.

Bankruptcy trustee Clarke Coll said he had no other choice after Costco Wholesale refused to take shipment of the Sunland Inc. product and declined requests to let it be donated to food banks or repackaged or sold to brokers who provide food to institutions like prisons.

"We considered all options," Coll said. "They didn't agree."

Costco officials did not return telephone calls seeking comment. But court filings indicate the product was made with \$2.8 million worth of Valencia peanuts owned by Costco and had been sitting in the warehouse since the company shut down and filed for bankruptcy last fall.

After extensive testing, Costco agreed to a court order authorizing the trustee to sell it the peanut butter. But after getting eight loads, Costco rejected it as "not merchantable" because of leaky peanut oil.

Coll said "all parties agreed there's nothing wrong with the peanut butter from a health and safety issue," but court records show that on a March 19 conference call Costco said "it would not agree to any disposition ... other than destruction."

So instead of selling or donating the peanut butter, with a value estimated at \$2.6 million, the estate is paying about \$60,000 to haul the 950,000 jars of nut butter — or about 25 tons — to the Curry County landfill in Clovis, where public works director Clint Bunch says it "will go in with our regular waste and covered with dirt."

The last of 58 truckloads was expected Friday, he said.

Sunland made peanut butter under a number of different labels for retailers such as Costco, Fage and Trader Joe's, along with products under its own name. But the plant was shut down in September 2012 after its products were linked to 41 salmonella cases in 20 states.

It later reopened for about five months, but shut down last October after the company's Chapter 7 bankruptcy filing.



Anti-abortion advocates Cynthia Serna, left, and Rosanne Keinath gather with others as they protest outside a Planned Parenthood fundraiser luncheon, where actress Diane Keaton was the featured speaker, at the Marriott Rivercenter Hotel in San Antonio, Texas, on Monday.

US appellate court upholds Texas' limits on abortion

By WILL WEISSERT
AND CHRISTOPHER SHERMAN
The Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — Dr. Lester Minto knows he won't be able to reopen his clinic after a federal appeals court upheld tough new abortion restrictions in Texas. But he insists he won't be silenced.

Minto has been providing abortions for three decades, but he closed his clinic near the Mexico border earlier this month because of a law that imposes some of the nation's strictest limitations on the procedure. The law, which was overwhelmingly approved last summer by the Republican-controlled Texas Legislature, has helped force numerous clinics to close.

"I'm not down and out," Minto said Thursday, shortly after the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals upheld the law. "I just can't fight in the open."

A lower court judge initially ruled that parts of the law were unconstitutional and served no medical purpose, but the 5th Circuit allowed some regulations to

remain in effect while it mulled the appeal. On Thursday, the appeals court ruled that the law "on its face does not impose an undue burden on the life and health of a woman."

The case, however, will likely end up at the U.S. Supreme Court.

Restrictions already in effect require abortion doctors to have admitting privileges at a nearby hospital and place strict limits on physicians prescribing abortion-inducing pills. But other facets of the omnibus law won't take effect until this fall, meaning some of the 24 abortion clinics still open in Texas also could close.

So far, the regulations have helped force at least 19 clinics to close statewide, including Minto's in Harlingen.

But the doctor has kept his clinic's phone line active. He said a recent check found messages from five women, including a 12-year-old girl who he said had been raped traveling through Mexico and illegally crossed into the U.S.

"So she can't go up north," he said, referring to the nearest still-open clinics in Corpus Christi and

San Antonio that would require passing through inland Border Patrol highway checkpoints. "She's forced to carry this pregnancy because of these laws."

Planned Parenthood had filed the lawsuit seeking to block part of the law. On Thursday, the organization said the appeals court ruling meant that "safe and legal abortion will continue to be virtually impossible for thousands of Texas women to access."

In passing the restrictions, state lawmakers argued they were protecting women's health. But critics called the measures an attempt to effectively ban abortion in Texas through overregulation. Law opponents argued that many abortion doctors didn't have admitting privileges and that limiting when and where they could prescribe abortion-inducing pills would discourage women from choosing that option.

Other aspects of the new rules, including a requirement that all procedures take place in a surgical facility, are set to begin in September. Those elements also may be challenged in court.

Bride gets 30 years in husband's murder

The Associated Press

MISSOULA, Mont. — The defendant's tears notwithstanding, a federal judge cited a lack of remorse as he sentenced a Montana woman to more than three decades in prison for pushing her newlywed husband to his death in Glacier National Park.

Jordan Linn Graham, 22, took the stand Thursday during her sentencing hearing to offer a tearful apology to the family of Cody Johnson, 25, who died just eight days after their marriage last summer. But U.S. District Judge Donald Molloy appeared unmoved.

He indicated he had continuing doubts about her honesty and said he was "waiting for Ms. Graham to say she was sorry for killing Cody," KGVO-AM reported.

"There's only one person in this room that knows what happened, and I don't think she's been entirely truthful about what happened," Molloy said.

Graham was sentenced to 30 years and five months in prison without the possibility of parole and ordered to pay \$16,910 in restitution.

She will be subject to five years of court supervision upon her release.

Prosecutors had recommended a prison term of 50 years to life. They said Graham lured Johnson to the top of a 300-foot cliff in Glacier park on July 7 and pushed him over, then lied repeatedly to investigators in an attempt to cover up the crime.

Outside the courthouse, Johnson's mother, Sherry Johnson, said she felt she could now go on with her life.

"I do feel that I can move forward with this, yes," she said.

Sherry Johnson's sister-in-law, Celeste Watson, said after the sentencing that the family still doesn't know the truth about what happened.

"But we have to accept what went on here today and move forward," Watson said, according to the Missoulian.



Jordan Linn Graham, shown in October, was sentenced Thursday to 30 years and five months for killing her husband in Glacier National Park.

US has fewest births since 1998, census shows

By JOHN MCCORMICK
Bloomberg News

The U.S. recorded the most deaths in its history and the fewest births since 1998, resulting in the lowest population gain from natural causes in 35 years, an analysis of 2013 Census Bureau estimates released Thursday shows.

Americans remain cautious about having babies following the worst recession since the Great Depression, although they are

increasingly changing residences again, suggesting growing confidence in the economic recovery.

Those are among the findings from county-level data that also show the largest metropolitan areas are getting bigger as much of the rest of the nation sees slower population growth or declines. Rural areas where oil and natural gas production is booming and Gulf Coast retirement enclaves are notable exceptions to that trend.

If the nation returned to a more normal fertility rate, it could boost the economy by spurring demand for new homes and goods ranging from diapers to furniture and cars. Rising fertility rates in states such as South Dakota, where unemployment is 3.6 percent, have prompted some demographers and economists to predict a reversal of the nationwide decline in fertility that coincided with the recession and its aftermath.

NATION



For almost 70 years Georgia Bell, 91, has lived at 1115 Indiana Street on the edge of the University of Kansas campus in Lawrence. A proposed 5-story apartment building could surround her home on three sides if she doesn't come to terms to sell the property.

PHOTOS BY KEITH MYERS, THE KANSAS CITY (MO.) STAR/MCT

STANDING HER GROUND

91-year-old woman continues to resist Kansas developer's \$600,000 offer on her \$93,500 house

By DONALD BRADLEY
The Kansas City (Mo.) Star

LAWRENCE, Kan. — From Indiana Street near the edge of the University of Kansas campus, you can barely see the top of Georgia Bell's house.

It sits at the bottom of 26 old, steep and uneven concrete steps. Two city officials descended those steps recently to talk to Bell about selling her place to a Chicago developer.

The man has offered what seems a reasonable price for a one-bedroom, 840-square-foot house built nearly a hundred years ago, especially considering the roof sags and leaks. She's got a plywood patch in the kitchen floor, and the front door has no header so Bell, 91, crams a towel up there to block the cold wind.

The siding is rotting away like old food.

The developer's offer: \$600,000. Considering Bell and her husband gave \$850 for the house in 1946, one might think she saw this Chicago fellow coming. But after nearly a year of talk, she's turned him down. She feels like she's being forced out of the home where she raised six children. Their photos hang on the walls.

"I done broke the ice here and now they want to sweep me out," she said. "I got nowhere to go and it's like I don't matter."

Lawrence officials and the developer, Jim Heffernan of HERE LLC, made clear she can stay. No one is talking about forcing her out through eminent domain.

"We have no desire for that," Heffernan said.

His company's plan calls for a five-story, state-of-the-art residential and retail complex with 156 student housing units — each with an 18-foot loft ceiling. There will be restaurants, a rooftop gar-

den, a fitness center and swimming pool, all topped off with an automated robotic parking garage that picks up cars and sets them down like books on a shelf.

The whole complex will be U-shaped. Nestled inside the opening, like a rusty hood ornament to all the grandeur, will sit Georgia Bell's ramshackle house — if she stays put.

And she'll be trapped if she does. When she wants to leave now, she goes out the back to a parking lot because she can no longer get up those concrete steps in the front. The new complex will fill that parking lot with five towering stories of University of Kansas student life.

She'll be stuck between a rock chalk and a steep place.

She may have to cave. And she can see the plus side of having some extra cash for the first time in her life.

"I only weigh 98 pounds," she said. "I'd like to be a little fleshier. Maybe get my teeth fixed and buy a new car."

She paused long enough for worry to retake her face.

"Everybody has to move on, but I got nothing to grab on to."

Stand at the top of those old steps and look west and you'll see KU's Memorial Stadium. Turn around, there's two fraternity houses.

Down at the end of the block stands the Oread Hotel, a popular stay for campus visitors, especially those attending Jayhawk games. Student apartments, known as Berkeley Flats, surround Georgia Bell's little house. Those apartments are con-

ing down to make way for the project.

Connor Terrill, 23, a junior from Leawood with a blue mohawk haircut, lives behind her.

"Frankly, I don't see how she could be very happy living there," he said.

His mother, Cathy Terrill, wasn't so sure, noting that Bell had been there nearly 70 years.

"She's been doing it all this time," she said.

Jared Smith, 19, can see why Bell doesn't want to sell.

"She's 91 — what's she going to do with all that money?" he asked. "It might not mean anything to her."

Lawrence City Commissioner Bob Schumm pointed out that the developer's offer of \$600,000 is more than six times the current appraised value of \$93,500.

But Bell hasn't budged.

The KU students see Bell down below, sweeping off her patio, picking up a stray beer can.

She doesn't know them. They don't know her. If anything, she might be "the crazy old woman with a gun."

Bell waves her hand at that. Yes, the police came one day, but it's a BB gun and she uses it to shoot squirrels that try to get into her attic.

The students' world is not hers. They go by with backpacks, headphones, iPads and mountain bikes. She grew up poor in Lawrence, eating a Sunday dinner of neck bones and beans. Her mother cooked for a sorority.

"I was lucky to get a GED," she said.

The mother and fa-

ther she knew growing up turned out to be her grandparents. Her real mother — Bell knew her as a family acquaintance — didn't come around till later. When she did, Bell remembers her grandmother saying: "I knew you'd want her when she could hold a broom."

Bell married fairly young. What did her husband, Eleanor Bell, do for a living?

"That's the problem," she said. "Not much."

She raised the children largely alone. She took in laundry, doing all the folding and ironing, darning and mending. She worked at a turnpike toll booth for a while.

"I knew my life wasn't what it should be, but I didn't know anything," she said.

One son lives nearby, and the others are spread around. She didn't want any of them to speak for a story about her housing situation.

"They want to stay out of it, but yet they're in it," she said. "One of them said to take the money and run."

But the decision will be hers. She knows time is against her. She couldn't even scale the steep bank to tend her forsythia and honeysuckle. Both are gone now.

She's a little unsteady, walks with a cane and uses a dolly to wheel in groceries, but she thinks she's getting along OK. She drives a 1987 Pontiac Sunbird.

"I don't have to go to somebody else to get me a drink of water."

Still, Georgia Bell wonders what she will do if she sells and leaves this place. She knows they'll knock it down as soon as she's clear of the door. Where will she go?

"I don't want an apartment or any group living," she said. "I want to keep living like I am."

"I want to take my trash out."



UKRAINE UNREST

US agencies say Russia could be planning attack

By SHANE HARRIS
AND YUCHI DREAZEN

Foreign Policy

WASHINGTON — American intelligence agencies have told Obama administration officials and key congressional staffers that there is mounting evidence that Russia is putting the pieces into place for an invasion of eastern Ukraine, and that the possibility of an imminent assault cannot be ruled out, according to people with direct knowledge of the matter.

The numbers of troops near Russia's border with Ukraine have been steadily increasing since Russian forces conquered Crimea in February. And near Ukraine's eastern border, troops are reportedly being supplied with food and medical supplies, which they would need in the event of further operations — a development that U.S. intelligence agencies have noted with alarm. On Capitol Hill, U.S. spy agencies have given Congress increasingly dire assessments of the Russian activity and indicated that the likelihood of an invasion is rapidly growing, according to a participant in the discussions who spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss classified information.

Still, the intelligence officials have been careful not to offer a definitive conclusion that Moscow will invade or to predict the precise timing of a Russian military operation in Ukraine. Assessing the intentions of Russian President Vladimir Putin has been hampered by the fact that the U.S. has alarmingly little in the way of signals intelligence, or intercepted communications, that would indicate that he had decided to invade or when a strike was scheduled to start, one official said. Despite the tens of billions of dollars given to the intelligence community each year, the United States also has no real-time video

footage coming from drones in the region and is relying largely on still photos from satellites, another official said.

Further Russian aggression against Ukraine has seemed a distinct possibility since forces stormed into Crimea and took control of the peninsula and then moved to seize Ukrainian military bases in the region, facing practically no resistance. U.S. officials have become increasingly concerned about a potential domino effect in the region should Russian actions against NATO member countries force the alliance to enter the conflict.

"Our concern is that Russia won't stop [in Crimea]," NATO Secretary-General Anders Fogh Rasmussen told Foreign Policy in an interview last week. "There is a clear risk that Russia will go beyond Crimea and the next goal will be the eastern provinces of Ukraine." President Barack Obama has used a trip to Europe this week to warn Putin in increasingly strong language not to invade eastern Ukraine.

Independent reporting from the region bolsters the intelligence community's assessment that Russia was assembling the necessary troops and military resources to invade if Putin gives the order.

On Thursday, Voice of America reported that the Russian military had established a field hospital in the Bryansk region, about 12 miles from the Russia-Ukraine border, and that train cars have been arriving near the border with troop supplies. That could mean that Russian forces are just settling in for a long stay — troops in the field need to be fed, clothed, and tended to when they get sick — without preparing a strike.

However, two officials said that the intelligence warnings have taken on a more alarming tone in part because the CIA failed to predict Putin's Crimea invasion.



ALEXEI DRUZHININ RIA-Novosti/AP

Russian President Vladimir Putin shakes hands Friday at the presentation ceremony of the top military brass in the Kremlin in Moscow.

Russia official: Ethnic minorities in Ukraine fearing for their lives

By JIM HEINTZ
The Associated Press

MOSCOW — Russia's foreign ministry on Friday alleged that ethnic minorities in Ukraine are living in fear after the ouster of the country's president and the coming to power of interim authorities that include right-wing nationalists.

The statement by the ministry was in line with Russia's frequent contention that Ukraine's large ethnic Russian community faces repression under the new government that Moscow characterizes as fascist.

The ministry statement raises the stakes on the issue, saying that ethnic Germans, Hungarians and Czechs in Ukraine also feel themselves in peril.

"They are unsettled by the unstable political situation in the country and are seriously afraid for their lives," the statement said, without citing specific incidents.

Russia has brought large numbers of troops to areas near the Ukrainian border and speculation is strong that Moscow could use

protection of ethnic Russians as a pretext for a military incursion.

Tensions between Ukraine's ethnic Russians and Ukrainian-speakers continue to plague the country in the wake of the ouster of President Viktor Yanukovich, who fled to Russia in February after months of protests against him.

The Crimea region, where ethnic Russians are a majority, voted this month to secede from Ukraine and Russia has formally annexed the Black Sea peninsula, a move that Western countries have denounced as illegitimate. Talk percolates of similar referenda in other regions with large Russian populations, although none has been scheduled.

Yanukovich on Friday issued a statement calling for an "all-Ukrainian referendum" to determine the status of Ukraine's regions, according to Russian news reports. The reports did not specify if he envisioned referenda in each region or a national vote, nor did he say what actually should be voted on.

Proposals have been floated by Russia and some politicians to federalize Ukraine — giving the regions more autonomy. The interim authorities reject such a move.

Yanukovich's biggest rival, former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, attacked the statement, accusing Yanukovich of being "a tool aimed at destroying the independence of Ukraine."

Also on Friday, Russia's president said Ukraine could regain some arms and equipment of military units in Crimea that did not switch their loyalty to Russia.

Russian forces took control of Ukrainian military installations in Crimea this month after Russia formally annexed the Black Sea peninsula. Some Ukrainian servicemen reportedly joined Russian forces, while others withdrew.

Russian Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu on Friday told President Vladimir Putin that the Ukrainian withdrawal from Crimea is complete, Russian news agencies reported.

Ukrainian dolphins, if they exist, are unlikely to be helpful to Russia

By BRIAN FUNG
The Washington Post

You know those combat dolphins Russia reportedly captured from the Ukrainian military? If they've been seized, Moscow shouldn't expect them to cooperate, according to a former Ukrainian defense minister.

The Kremlin has plans to use the cetaceans, said to have been captured during the invasion of Crimea, for its own military operations, according to a widely circulated report by Russian state

media Wednesday. The report took off on the Internet, but so far, nobody — not even the Ukrainian military — has been able to independently verify the claim.

Nearly a dozen prisoners have reached Kiev, where there has been little news about the future of the thousands of Ukrainian military personnel in Crimea. Russia cut communications to the region early on in its takeover, and local Ukrainian forces have been reduced to using cellphones to communicate with Kiev.

Vladislav Selezniov, a spokes-

man for the Ukrainian military, said reporters have been calling him about the plight of the dolphins. It's true there's a dolphinarium in Sevastopol that, in the past, has been used for military purposes, he said. But in recent years it has been used to provide therapy for children and medical patients.

"In my opinion, dolphins are not a military asset," he said.

Dolphin units were established by the Soviet Union as early as the 1960s, during a Cold War-era flipper race with the United

States. The U.S. Navy still has its dolphins; Washington had them on standby in the run-up to the Iraq War to detect mines and other objects in the Persian Gulf. But Ukraine's dolphin unit had fallen apart in recent years because of lack of financing and attention, just like the rest of the military, Yevhen Marchuk, the former Ukrainian defense minister and army general, said Thursday.

Ukraine sold off several of its dolphins to Iran more than 10 years ago, along with a handful of

sea lions and walruses, because it couldn't afford to feed the animals, according to a 2010 BBC report. The lack of tourists in the wintertime meant there was no money for fish or nutritional supplements, the dolphins' trainer, Boris Zhurid, told the BBC.

If Russia had taken the dolphins prisoner, said Marchuk, it's doubtful they would help the Russians with intelligence.

"Dolphins get used to the people they work with," he said. "It's not so easy for them to change allegiance."

WORLD



SANTI PALACIOS/AP

Crossing attempt

Sub-Saharan migrants climb over a fence that divides Morocco and the Spanish enclave of Melilla on Friday. Officials say several hundred African migrants tried to cross barbed-wire border fences to enter Melilla but most were turned back by security forces from both sides. Thousands of migrants seeking a better life in Europe are living illegally in Morocco, hoping they can enter Melilla and Spain's other northern African coastal enclave, Ceuta.

Obama meets Saudi king, considers new Syrian aid

By JULIE PACE
AND JIM KUHNHEIN
The Associated Press

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia — President Barack Obama is considering allowing shipments of new air defense systems to the Syrian opposition, a U.S. official said Friday, as Arabia sought to reassure Saudi Arabia's king that the U.S. is not taking too soft a stance in Syria and other Mideast conflicts.

A key U.S. ally, Saudi Arabia would be likely to cheer a decision by Obama to allow the portable missile launchers into Syria. Saudi officials were dismayed when Obama scrapped plans last year to launch a strike against Syrian President Bashar Assad, and they have been pressing the White House on the issue. The Saudis could play a direct role in sending the systems, known as "manpads," to the rebels fighting Assad's forces.

Manpads are compact missile launchers with the range and explosive power to attack low-flying planes and helicopters. Assad's forces are known to have them,

and some have been brought into Syria by rebels and their sympathizers.

The Saudis have held off providing them in the past because of U.S. opposition.

Word of Obama's potential shift came as Obama was paying a visit to Saudi King Abdullah's desert oasis at the conclusion of a weeklong, four-country trip. The aging monarch has been nervously watching Washington's negotiations with Iran and other U.S. policy developments in the Middle East.

Despite its decades-long alliance with the United States, Saudi's royal family has become increasingly anxious in recent years over Obama's nuclear talks with Iran and his tepid involvement in the Syrian civil war.

During Obama's evening meetings with the king, the president's task was to reassure Saudi Arabia that the U.S. is not abandoning Arab interests despite troop withdrawals from Iraq and Afghanistan, greater energy independence back home and nuclear talks with predominantly Persian Iran.

Japan Fukushima plant worker dies in mudslide

TOKYO — A worker died Friday at the Japanese nuclear plant devastated by the 2011 tsunami after getting buried in a mudslide, in the first death from an accident during efforts to control and decommission the facility.

The man, who had been working near a storage area at the Fukushima Dai-ichi plant, was dug out and rushed to a hospital, but he was unconscious and his heart had stopped beating.

Three hours after the mudslide swallowed him, the man, who

was in his 50s, was pronounced dead at the hospital, according to Tokyo Electric Power Co., the utility that operates the plant.

"Some danger is always involved," company spokesman Masayuki Ono told reporters. "We are deeply sorry."

Three reactors went into meltdown and exploded after the March 11, 2011, tsunami damaged the plant's cooling system.

Thousands of workers, wearing masks and suits to guard against radiation, are working on the cleanup and decommissioning, which is expected to take decades.

From The Associated Press

New area turns up objects in search for Malaysia jet

By ROB GRIFFITH
AND GILLIAN WONG
The Associated Press

PERTH, Australia — Australian officials moved the search area for the lost Malaysian jetliner 680 miles to the northeast Friday following a new analysis of radar data, and planes quickly found multiple objects in the new zone.

Five out of 10 aircraft hunting for Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 found objects of various colors Friday, the Australian Maritime Safety Authority said. It said it was not clear whether the objects were from the plane, and photos of them would be analyzed overnight.

AMSA said the items included two rectangular objects that were blue and grey — among the colors of the missing plane. A Chinese patrol ship in the area will attempt to locate the objects on Saturday, it said.

The three-week hunt for the jet has been filled with possible sightings, with hundreds of objects identified by satellite and

others by plane, but so far not a single piece of debris has been confirmed.

Australian officials said they turned away from the old search area, which they had combed for a week, because a new analysis of radar data suggests the plane had flown faster and therefore ran out of fuel more quickly than previously estimated. The new area is closer to land and has calmer weather than the old one, which will make searching easier.

The radar data that was re-analyzed was received soon after Flight 370 lost communications and veered from its scheduled path March 8. The Beijing-bound flight carrying 239 people turned around soon after taking off from Kuala Lumpur, flew west toward the Strait of Malacca and disappeared from radar.

The search area has changed several times since the plane vanished as experts analyzed a frustratingly small amount of data from the aircraft, including the radar signals and "pings" that a satellite picked up for several hours after radar and voice con-

tact was lost.

The latest analysis indicated the aircraft was traveling faster than previously estimated, reducing the possible distance it could have flown before going down in the Indian Ocean. Just as a car loses gas efficiency when driving at high speeds, a plane will get less out of a tank of fuel when it flies faster.

Malaysia's civil aviation chief, Azharuddin Abdul Rahman, told reporters in Kuala Lumpur that personnel at Boeing Co. in Seattle had helped with the analysis of the flight.

Planes and ships had spent a week searching about 1,350 miles southwest of Perth, Australia, the base for the search. Now they are searching about 1,150 miles west of the city.

"This is our best estimate of the area in which the aircraft is likely to have crashed into the ocean," Martin Dolan, chief commissioner of the Australian Transport Safety Bureau, said at a news conference in Canberra.

Navy sending another Poseidon aircraft to help in search effort

By JAMES KIMBER
Stars and Stripes

The Navy is sending a second P-8A Poseidon to Perth, Australia, to support the search efforts of the Malaysia Airlines jet that disappeared nearly three weeks ago.

The aircraft was scheduled to leave Okinawa on Friday to join the multinational effort to find MH370 and its 239 passengers and crewmembers, according to Cmdr. William Marks, 7th Fleet spokesman.

Additionally, Marks said the P-3 Orion operating out of Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, will be sent back to Okinawa to resume regular operations. The Orion was the first U.S. asset to arrive for the search efforts.

"It's critical to continue searching for debris so we can reverse-forecast the wind, current and sea state since March 8th to recreate the position where MH370 possibly went into the water. We've got to get this initial position right prior to deploying the Towed Pinger Locator since the MH370's black box has a limited battery life and we can't afford to lose time searching in the wrong area," said Cmdr. Tom Money-maker, 7th Fleet oceanographer, in a Navy release Thursday.

The order to send a second Poseidon highlights this critical need as more objects that may or may not be pieces of MH370 continue to appear on satellite imagery and the 30-day countdown for MH370's black box battery



ERIC PASTOR/Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

Lt. Clayton Hunt and Lt. j.g. Nicholas Horton, naval aviators assigned to Patrol Squadron 16, pilot a P-8A Poseidon during a recent mission to assist in search-and-rescue operations for Malaysia Airlines flight MH370.

winds down. On Friday, officials changed search area based on new information.

"We're not searching for a needle in a haystack — we're still trying to define where the haystack is," Australia's deputy defense chief, Air Marshal Mark Binskin, told reporters at a military base in Perth, Australia, on Tuesday.

As it stands, the Navy's Poseidon and the soon-to-depart Orion had flown 16 missions, flying

more than 150 flight hours over 220,000 square nautical miles. Despite the presence of the all-weather patrol aircraft typically used for hunting submarines, Navy officials said bad weather including strong currents and icing halted the search Thursday. It was the second time in a week the search efforts were suspended because of weather.

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AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Fugitive arrested after marshal sees him eating

MO KANSAS CITY — A man wanted in Kansas and Oklahoma is likely wishing he had decided to eat in this weekend.

Virgil Tillman was eating at a restaurant on the Country Club Plaza in Kansas City on Sunday when a U.S. marshal who had been looking for him since February decided to go to the same restaurant.

Tillman is wanted in Kansas on firearms, theft and drug charges. Oklahoma officials say he failed to appear in court on drug and illegal-weapons charges.

Matt Cahill, acting deputy U.S. Marshal in Kansas, said the marshal was off duty when he spotted Tillman at the restaurant. He waited outside with Kansas City police and arrested Tillman as he left.

The marshal then went into the restaurant and had his meal.

Police: Man pepper sprays professor

VA ARLINGTON — Arlington County police say a man walked into George Mason University classroom and pepper sprayed a professor.

The man walked into a class on the school's Arlington campus on Wednesday afternoon, jumped on a desk and announced a citizen's arrest. That's when police say the man pepper-sprayed the professor in the face. The man chased the professor into the hall, but an off-duty officer in the class caught him and held him until police arrived.

Officials said medics treated 12 to 15 people, including the professor, for breathing issues.

The school said the professor was not seriously hurt. Students were sent home for the day.

Police said the man's name won't be released until he is officially charged. The university said he is not a student at the school.

Baby gorilla with mom at San Diego Zoo

CA SAN DIEGO — The San Diego Zoo says an infant gorilla that was successfully treated for pneumonia after a cesarean section delivery is in her mother's arms for the first time.

Her officials say the 12-day-old female was physically introduced to her mother, Imani, for the first time Monday morning. Since then, the 18-year-old Imani has been constantly cradling and carrying her baby.

The new mom began nursing 3 hours after meeting the baby. Zoo staff will monitor the baby to make sure that the newborn gorilla receives enough nutrition.

Nadine Lamberski, associate director of veterinary services at the park, said last week the unnamed gorilla is developing quickly and normally after undergoing surgery for a collapsed lung.

The gorilla was delivered March 12 at the zoo's Safari

THE CENSUS

\$1M

The amount of money won last summer by an Ohio man who said Wednesday that he is now broke. Kevin Lewis, 52, of Cincinnati, got the money through a Horseshoe Casino giveaway. He was arrested in December on charges of trafficking marijuana and pain pills, and told court officials the money was gone, much of it to paying bills for other people. Lewis was sentenced to 60 days of probation after pleading guilty to drug possession and trafficking.



AMANDA SNYDER, THE (MINNEAPOLIS) STAR TRIBUNE/AP

Combating student stress

University of Minnesota students Khadira Mohamed and Najma Dahir pet and interact with Woodstock, a 6-year-old silkie chicken, at PAWS (Pet Away Worry and Stress) in Boynton Health Services in Minneapolis on Wednesday. PAWS offers therapy animals such as dogs and cats to help students de-stress.

Part.

High school students changed grades

NM SANTA FE — Approximately 20 students at a Santa Fe high school somehow obtained a teacher's password and used it to change test and course grades.

Capital High Principal Channell Wilson-Segura said the students were suspended for two days and will have to start classes over again. She said some students not starting classes over may not have enough credits to graduate.

District Chief of Staff Latifah Phillips said Wilson-Segura has the support of Superintendent Joel Boyd in deciding to treat the matter as a "teachable moment."

Officer faces discipline after vehicle is stolen

UT SUNSET — A police lieutenant in Sunset could face disciplinary action after a burglary suspect escaped with his police vehicle over the weekend.

Sunset Police Chief Ken Eborn

said that Lt. Bruce Arbogast is aware of his mistake and is "beating himself up over this."

Authorities said Nathan Ward, 26, was arrested Sunday afternoon on suspicion of burglary and was placed into an unmarked police vehicle.

Police said Ward convinced the officer to stop by Ward's house so he could tell his mother he was going to jail.

Eborn said that while the officer went to the house, Ward shimied his hands from behind his back, got into the front seat and drove off.

Officials said the SUV was found abandoned in Ogden, and Ward was recaptured about 6 p.m.

Man pleads guilty to assaulting wife with gas

WA COLFAX — A former Washington State University doctoral candidate has pleaded guilty to trying to poison his sleeping wife with nitrogen gas.

Whitman County Superior Court Judge David Frazier on Tuesday sentenced chemistry student Jacob Forster, 32, to almost 70 months in prison for attempted assault.

Whitman County prosecutors agreed to reduce the charges from attempted murder.

Forster's attorney contended his client used nitrogen gas to ensure his wife was sleeping soundly so that she could not stop him from committing suicide with the toxic gas, himself.

Cheryl Williams told police she awoke to find a cardboard box covering her head. Prosecutors said Forster then grabbed the box and equipment he'd used to pump the colorless, odorless gas into it and left.

Wildlife officials catch, relocate panther

FL NAPLES — A Florida panther found near the beach in Naples has been relocated to a more suitable habitat.

Biologists and law enforcement officers captured and relocated the endangered panther on Monday near the beach at Clam Pass Park in Collier County, according to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

It had been spotted in the mangroves by beachgoers who were walking over a boardwalk that leads to the beach.

Authorities darted the animal

with a tranquilizer, checked its health and determined it was in good condition. The male panther is about two years old and weighs more than 100 pounds.

Biologists will be able to monitor the panther by using a radio collar.

Ex-Hopi leader charged with bust theft

AZ FLAGSTAFF — A former Hopi Tribe chairman has been charged with stealing a bronze bust of his grandfather, one of Indian Country's most famous athletes, from a museum.

A criminal complaint filed in Hopi tribal court alleges that Ben Nuvamsa took the bust of two-time Olympic distance runner Louis Tewanima without permission from the museum on the north-eastern Arizona reservation.

Nuvamsa contends the charge is frivolous and said he had permission to pick up the bust in August for display at an annual Labor Day weekend race that honors Tewanima, a silver medalist in the 10,000 meters at the 1912 Olympics.

From wire reports

NATION

It's one of New York's more peculiar and paradoxical tourist traditions, a place visitors extol on travel websites while many residents hope never to wind up there.



Police escort a handcuffed woman into New York's Criminal Court Building on March 11

RICHARD DREW/AP

WELCOME TO NIGHT COURT

By JENNIFER PELTZ
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Jenny Baumann's itinerary for her first trip to New York City: Rockefeller Center. The Empire State Building. Central Park. Night court.

In a city synonymous with theaters and nightlife, the 26-year-old from Munich was perched on a scarred wooden bench in a utilitarian room in lower Manhattan on a recent evening, straining to decode — sometimes even to hear — the methodical hubbub of arraignments in one of the nation's busiest courts.

"It's very interesting to hear real cases," Baumann said as she and a friend watched a judge decide whether to set bail for people facing charges ranging from choking a girlfriend to stealing a six-pack of beer. Each case was handled in a matter of minutes amid a hive of clerks shuffling paperwork, police taking retinal scans, defendants and lawyers conferring in a confessional-sized glass booth and court officers occasionally bellowing, "Quiet, please!"

It's one of New York's more peculiar and paradoxical tourist traditions, a place visitors extol on travel websites while many residents hope never to wind up there. To travelers, it's gritty entertainment, hard-knocks education or at least a chance to experience real-life law and order on a New York scale.



NEW YORK POST/AP

New York Knicks' Raymond Felton appears in New York's night court on Feb. 25, on gun charges.

Dozens of jurisdictions nationwide hold some court sessions at night, but Manhattan Criminal Court occupies a unique spot in the public's imagination, thanks to TV's "Law & Order" and "Night Court," not to mention arraignments of real-life notables ranging from rapper Sean "Diddy" Combs to French politician Dominique Strauss-Kahn.

The court handles more than 100,000 arrests a

year, averaging about 70 to 90 cases during the 5 p.m. to 1 a.m. night session — and that doesn't count people who got summonses, let alone New York City's four other boroughs.

Established in 1907, Manhattan night court once attracted such spectators as John D. Rockefeller and the then-Duke of Manchester. More recently, it's been noted in tour books, including once in the off-the-beaten-path-prizing Lonely Planet guide.

"This is something that feels really underground and unique," said Regis St. Louis, author of the current Lonely Planet New York book.

But if it can be entertaining to watch, it's fraught and serious work, notes acting State Supreme Court Justice Melissa Jackson, the Criminal Court's supervising judge from 2008 through 2012.

"From the judge's perspective and all of the attorneys' who work so hard, there's nothing amusing about it," she said. "And the stakes are very high."

After two hours in Manhattan night court, Baumann came away determined to observe a court back in Germany. As she left, Holly Young was in the midst of her own first visit to the Manhattan court, waiting for a friend's arraignment.

Go there for fun? She shook her head.

"That's not something I would want to do," she said. "I don't think this is cool at all."

BUSINESS/WEATHER

Microsoft's Office for iPad unveiled

By MICHAEL LIEDTKE
The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO—Microsoft has released an iPad version of its popular Office software suite, a breakthrough heralding a new era under a CEO who promises to focus more on the devices that people are using instead of trying to protect the company's lucrative Windows franchise.

Thursday's unveiling of the much-anticipated iPad apps for processing, spreadsheet and presentation software comes nearly four years after Apple Inc. released the tablet computer that has contributed to a steady decline in sales of desktop and laptop machines running on the Windows operating system.

Microsoft's decision to relent to persistent demands to make its top-selling software application available on the world's most popular tablet comes seven weeks after the Redmond, Wash., company anointed Satya Nadella

as its CEO after being led for 14 years by Steve Ballmer.

The change in command gives Microsoft Corp. an opportunity to prove it's a more nimble company adapting to evolution of computing instead of clinging to its old ways.



Nadella

Nadella, who has been working at Microsoft for 22 years, emphasized that he felt rejuvenated since taking over as CEO. "You see things from a fresh set of eyes and fresh perspective," Nadella told a crowd of reporters gathered in San Francisco for his first major public appearance as CEO.

The Office app for the iPad represents a major step in the right direction for Microsoft, said FBR Capital Markets analyst Daniel

Ives. "They finally looked in the mirror and realized they needed to go with the crowd in terms of iPads," Ives said.

Like several other analysts, Ives thinks the Office app for the iPad could generate an additional \$1 billion in revenue for Microsoft. Although the Office app is free to anyone who wants to read Office's Word, Excel and PowerPoint programs on the iPad, it will require a subscription to Microsoft's Office 365 to create and edit documents on the device. The Office 365 subscriptions cost \$70 or \$100 annually, with the lower price placing more restrictions on the number and types of devices that can be used.

The Office 365 subscriptions also have been required to use Office apps built for the iPhone and Android phones last summer, so many iPad owners may already have one.

But millions of other people with iPads probably haven't had a reason to buy an Office 365

until Thursday. Nearly 200 million iPads had been sold through the end of 2013, meaning about 5 percent of those device owners would have to pay for a \$100 annual subscription to generate an additional \$1 billion in revenue.

Microsoft hasn't said how many Office 365 subscribers it already has, but Nomura analysts Rick Sherlund estimates the number at anywhere at between 14 million to 24 million. He estimates that the annual subscription revenue is running at about \$2.5 billion.

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs (March 31)	\$1.4116
Dollar buys (March 31)	€0.7084
British pound (March 31)	\$1.71
Japanese yen (March 31)	100.00
South Korean won (March 31)	1,041.00
Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3771
British pound	\$1.6624/6.6015
Canada (dollar)	1.1047
China (Yuan)	6.2120
Denmark (Krone)	5.4271
Egypt (Pound)	6.9700
Euro (Hong Kong)	\$1.3757/7.269
Hong Kong (dollar)	7.7579
Hungary (Forint)	224.31
Israel (Shekel)	3.4987
Japan (Yen)	102.69
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2815
Norway (Krone)	5.9915
Philippines (Peso)	44.80
Poland (Zloty)	3.303
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7505
Singapore (Dollar)	1.2605
South Korea (Won)	1,067.63
Switzerland (Franc)	0.8859
Taiwan (Dollar)	32.51
Turkey (New Lira)	1.8177

(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

INTEREST RATES

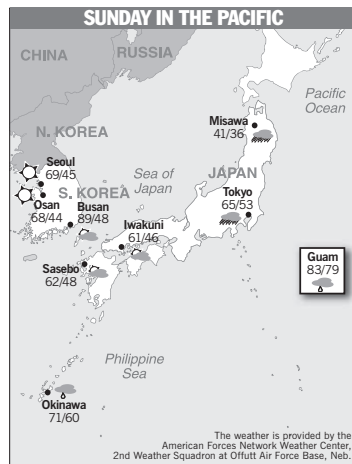
Prime rate	3.25
Discount rate	0.08
Federal funds market rate	0.08
3-month bill	0.05
30-year bond	3.53

MARKET WATCH

March 27, 2014

Dow Jones Industrials	-4.76
	16,264.23
Nasdaq composite	-22.35
	4,151.23
Standard & Poor's 500	-3.52
	1,849.04
Russell 2000	-4.05
	1,151.44

WEATHER OUTLOOK



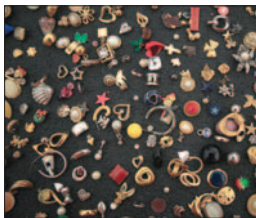
The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 2nd Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

Saturday's US temperatures

City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr
Ableene, Tex	75	43	Cir	Chatanooga	66	55	Rain	Fort Wayne	44	32	Snow	Louisville	53	47	Cldy
Akron, Ohio	39	34	Rain	Cheyenne	63	31	Cir	Fresno	74	53	Cldy	Lubbock	74	40	Cir
Albany, N.Y.	40	35	Rain	Chicago	42	30	PCldy	Goodland	72	28	Cir	Macon	75	58	Rain
Albuquerque	70	34	Cir	Cincinnati	42	40	Snow	Grand Junction	65	33	PCldy	Madison	47	26	PCldy
Allentown, Pa.	51	39	Rain	Cleveland	38	32	Snow	Grand Rapids	40	24	Cldy	Medford	57	44	Rain
Anchorage	40	23	Cir	Colorado Springs	66	28	Cir	Great Falls	51	34	Cldy	Memphis	65	51	Cir
Asheville	65	48	Rain	Columbia, S.C.	77	58	Rain	Green Bay	67	55	Rain	Midland-Odesa	76	42	Cir
Atlanta	72	56	Rain	Columbus, Ga.	41	37	Snow	Hartford	59	41	Rain	Milwaukee	39	28	PCldy
Atlantic City	57	45	Rain	Concord, N.H.	49	37	Rain	Harrisburg	51	40	Rain	Mpls-St Paul	43	19	Cir
Austin	75	45	Rain	Corpus Christi	78	60	Cir	Helena	52	35	Rain	Missoula	52	35	Rain
Baltimore	51	47	Cir	Dallas-Ft Worth	76	48	Cir	Honolulu	83	75	Cldy	Monterey	75	63	Cldy
Baton Rouge	75	61	PCldy	Dayton	39	36	Snow	Houston	79	59	Cir	Nashville	60	51	Cldy
Bilings	60	38	Cldy	Daytona Beach	79	68	Rain	Indianapolis	45	36	Cldy	New Orleans	77	63	PCldy
Birmingham	70	60	Cldy	Denver	67	32	Cir	Jacksonville	72	59	PCldy	New York City	53	45	Rain
Bismarck	58	23	Cir	Des Moines	56	29	Cir	Las Vegas	79	63	Rain	Newark	52	45	Rain
Boise	56	46	Rain	Detroit	38	28	Snow	Las Vegas	79	63	Rain	Norfolk-Va.	70	56	Rain
Boston	51	44	Rain	Duluth	38	28	Snow	Lincoln	61	29	PCldy	North Platte	71	25	Cir
Bridgeport	50	43	Rain	El Paso	78	46	Cir	Kansas City	61	32	Cir	Oklahoma City	60	38	Cir
Brownsville	79	63	Cldy	Rain Elkins	52	46	Rain	Key West	82	67	PCldy	Omaha	59	27	Cir
Buffalo	42	33	Cir	Erie	37	32	Snow	Knoxville	64	53	Rain	Orlando	82	67	Cir
Burlington, Vt.	40	29	PCldy	Eugene	54	45	Cldy	Lake Charles	76	60	Cir	Pasadena	59	44	Cldy
Caribou, Maine	40	29	PCldy	Evansville	55	42	Cldy	Lansing	82	56	PCldy	Pendleton	60	44	Cldy
Charlotte, N.C.	62	33	Cir	Fairbanks	40	3	Cir	Las Vegas	82	56	PCldy	Penn State	51	34	Cir
Charlotte, S.C.	78	59	Rain	Fargo	45	20	PCldy	Lexington	49	48	Rain	Philadelphia	56	43	Rain
Charlotte, W.Va.	52	49	Rain	Flagstaff	62	25	PCldy	Little Rock	69	51	Cir	Phoenix	85	57	Cir
Charlotte, N.C.	72	56	Rain	Fort Smith	70	41	Cir	Los Angeles	71	54	PCldy	Pittsburgh	45	35	Rain

National temperature extremes
Hi: Thu., 84, Dryden, Texas
Lo: Thu., -16, Saranac Lake, N.Y.

LIFESTYLE



How much is too much?

For many, gathering possessions is just the stuff of life

Whether it's old earrings, varsity letter jackets, family photographs or chandelier crystals, glass bowls or used shoes, some people have a difficult time parting with possessions because they are a connection to their past and give them a sense of security.

PHOTOS BY FRANCINE ORN
LOS ANGELES TIMES/MCT

BY MARY MACVEAN
Los Angeles Times

WE cherish things and accumulate them. We move them from shelf to shelf, and from home to home. The federal government estimates that a quarter of Americans with two-car garages don't use them for automobiles. Even those without a permanent home carry their stuff around with them.

We like to shop, own, trade or give away. Things matter to us, for reasons practical and emotional.

"Our possessions all have magical qualities. Many, if not most, of the things we keep have an essence that goes beyond the physical character of the object," says Randy Frost, a professor at Smith College, in Northampton, Mass., who has studied and written about hoarding and is the author of "Stuff."

A stroll through the Sunday flea market outside Fairfax High School provides a catalog of some of those magical objects: varsity letter jackets, rotary phones, typewriters, fur blankets, old ties and cowboy boots.

Vendors collect stuff to sell to people, who often resell the stuff all over again.

"This market has the best eclectic stuff — a collection of people's things that are old," says LaNell Petersen, shopping on a recent weekend with her sisters. She likes the hunt for something she believes is more valuable than its price.

Consider these statistics cited by professional organizer Regina Lark: The average U.S. household has 300,000 things, from paper clips to ironing boards. U.S. children make up 3.7 percent of children on the planet but have 47 percent of all toys and children's books.

So why can't we let go? And what are the implications of our reluctance to pare down, our inability to get organized?

The notion that things don't matter is rubbish, the experts say. They matter for many reasons: keeping up with the Joneses, recalling departed loved ones, even objective value — like the 17th century Dutch painting that is among many objects of desire in Donna Tartt's "The Goldfinch."

Our things can give us a sense of security, connection to the past, to the people we love.

But that security might be a crutch too, "a sort of public artificial mask," says Andrew Mellen, a professional organizer and author of "Unstuff Your Life." "Full bookshelves say, 'I'm well-read. I have lots of books.' But really, you just buy books. Is your home an accurate external reflection of you?"

Lark had bookcases full of the books she used to earn a doctorate in history. When she downsized to an apartment, she looked at the volumes and came to the conclusion that they represented her accomplishment, her intelligence. As she decided what to keep, "I had to ask myself a lot of questions. Who am I without these books? What will



people think of me? Getting rid of them, am I less smart?"

She finally gave them to a younger doctoral student and says she's happier for it. But there's no single prescription: "One person is happy living in a sparsely furnished yurt, while another person is happy adding to a collection of fine porcelain. There's no one right way," says Gretchen Rubin, author of "Happier at Home."

"I don't think stuff is inherently wrong or bad," Mellen says, "but if things have become obstacles to your happiness, that's a problem."

Figuring out what to discard and being able to actually toss stuff is crucial to an ordered, happy life, experts say.

"I am impressed by the degree to which outer order controls inner calm," says Rubin. She recalls the friend who told her, "I cleaned out my fridge, and now I can change careers."

Among our keepsake possessions, photos have their own "symbolic weight," prompting people to save even pictures of people they no longer remember, Rubin says.

Eventually many of them end up in the trash — unless Mark Kologi gets his hands on them. For 17 years now, artists in need of inspiration and all sorts of other people have found their way to his flea market stall to root through bins of miscellaneous snapshots, most of which sell for 50 cents

Tips on how to prioritize all the stuff in your life

Should you save it? Deciding what to buy, what to keep and what to toss "takes a lot of mental energy," says Gretchen Rubin, author of "Happier at Home." Here are some questions to ask yourself, and some tips for dealing with too much stuff.

• **Is it truly meaningful?** Just because you picked up a seashell in France doesn't necessarily mean it reminds you of the trip there, Rubin says.

• **Is it containable?** Consider a thimble to remind you of a grandparent rather than, say, a table.

• **Is it part of a collection?** When people amass a bunch of something, such as coins or Disney figurines, they start to seem more valuable. Don't be fooled. That still might not make them worth keeping.

• **Why not surround yourself with just that which gives you pleasure?** With love and beauty and things that fill your heart and mind," says professional organizer Regina Lark. "Like clothing.

Keep what makes you look hot. But if it's only OK, why keep it?"

• **When an object appeals to you,** says "Unstuff Your Life" author Andrew Mellen, ask yourself what you'll do with it, where it will live, whether it will replace something else. And sometimes you might conclude that "it's enough that it exists in the world" and you needn't own it.

• **Was it a gift?** A freebie? Just because someone gave it to you doesn't mean you have to keep it, Rubin says.

• **"Anything that deepens your relationships with other people"** is worth owning, Rubin says. That could be an origami set to use with your child or fancy kitchen knives used to prepare dinner parties.

• **Worried that you have too much stuff or care too much about it?** Worried that you might be suffering from "affluenza"? There are resources if you want to pledge to buy nothing new for a year except consumables (buynothingnew.org).

apiece. He estimates he's sold millions over the years.

Some have been bought by Luiso Berdejo, who was inspired to make the film "Violet" by one picture. In the film, a young man

falls in love with a woman he sees in a photo from that stall and sets out to find her.

As Berdejo talks, another customer tells a friend to "just reach in and pull one out." You never know where it might lead.

LIFESTYLE

‘Stray Rescue is all about second chances, and I would think that’s how it is here [Missouri Eastern Correctional Center].’

Randy Grim
founder, Stray Rescue of St. Louis

Sit! Stay! Thrive!

Inmates teach stray dogs socialization skills, obedience through Puppies for Parole program



PHOTOS BY LAURIE SKRIVAN, ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH/MCT

Cellmates Tony Ward, left, and Brandon Rathbun bond with their dog, Burlesque, during the meet and greet portion of the Puppies for Parole program at the Missouri Eastern Correctional Center in Pacific, Mo. Inmates who participate in the program help prepare stray dogs for adoption by teaching them obedience and socialization skills.



Left: Inmate Randy Brewer, left, walks Jellyfish to meet prison employee Alice Bernau.

Above: Randy Grim, founder of Stray Rescue of St. Louis, center, introduces Burlesque to inmate Tony Ward, right. Each dog is paired with two inmates for the Puppies for Parole program.

By LEAH THORSEN
St. Louis Post-Dispatch

PACIFIC, Mo. The inmates sat quietly on a recent Wednesday, watching intently as each Stray Rescue dog was led into a room at Missouri Eastern Correctional Center.

It was the first time they saw the dogs that will share their cells, and most aspects of their lives, for the next three months.

“They all come from horrible backgrounds,” Randy Grim, the rescue group’s founder, told them. The dogs had lived on the streets, been abused, been sick.

They need help, and a lot of time and a lot of patience, to make them adoptable.

That’s where the inmates come in. One by one, each dog’s name was called with the names of the two cellmates paired with it through the Puppies for Parole program.

It’s the first time Stray Rescue of St. Louis has participated.

The inmates at the medium-security prison will teach seven Stray Rescue dogs basic obedience and socialization skills in hopes of getting the dogs certified as “canine good citizens.”

The dogs will sleep in crates in the inmates’ cells and can go with the inmates to most places around the prison, but not to the visitors’ area or to the cafeteria.

They will be made available for adoption through Stray Rescue after completing the program.

More than 2,000 Puppies for Parole dogs have been adopted, according to the Missouri Department of Corrections. The program is funded by donations and receives no tax money.

“Stray Rescue is all about second chances, and I would think that’s how it is here,” Grim said.

The Pacific, Mo., prison has been without rescue dogs for about a year, and they’ve been sorely missed, said Warden Jennifer Sachse.

“They have a calming effect,” she said, recalling an elderly inmate who hadn’t touched a dog in years and cried when he got to pet one.

The inmates beamed as they led the leashed dogs outside, stooping to scratch their ears and laughing when the dogs clamedored for attention.

“We really appreciate this,” said Chris Smith, who is paired with Ralph, a 2-year-old terrier and Boxer mix, as he walked by Grim.

Smith, who is serving a 15-year sentence for second-degree murder, trained four dogs through the Puppies for Parole program while in another prison.

The dogs require the most patience in the first weeks as they adjust to their new surroundings, he said. Officers allow the inmates to take the dogs outside as needed when teaching house-training.

“It’s a way to give back to the community,” said Smith, 37.

David Ross also has experience with the program - he fondly remembers Lila, the black Labrador he trained.

“I felt so much joy when she was adopted,” said Ross, 45, who is serving a 10-year sentence for burglary. Still, he said the dog’s departure was bittersweet.

He and his cellmate Jose Cintron were paired Wednesday with Ruby, a shy pit-bull terrier mix Grim found on the streets of St. Louis.

“It benefits the dog, but it benefits us too,” said Cintron, 55, who is serving an eight-year sentence for theft and already worries that it will be hard to part with Ruby when the time comes.

HEALTH

Up to code?

Restaurant inspection reporter puts her kitchen to the test

When it comes to safe food handling, washing hands — and vegetables — is a must. Gloves can also be worn and make cleanup easier.

By LYDIA MULVANY
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

I'm not a germaphobe, but for a few hours I tried to become one.

A City of Milwaukee health inspector came to my apartment to conduct an inspection of my kitchen, and as if that wasn't intimidating enough, the director of Milwaukee's Health Department came along, too. Both were staying for lunch.

I'd invited them over because as a reporter covering restaurant inspections, it was becoming clear my own kitchen would likely fall under similar scrutiny.

Sanitation regulations can be esoteric. Obviously, moldy cutting boards and mouse droppings are vile, but restaurants get docked for holding beef with broccoli at 116 degrees instead of 135, or putting dishes in a hand sink.

I don't even have a so-called hand sink, and I don't take the temperature of my food. So what other rules was I breaking in my kitchen, and how serious were they? The restaurants I write about get inspected at least once a year, and can face fines or — worst case — closure, for serious or repeated violations.

The day of my inspection, I headed back home from work before they were supposed to arrive in order to have a few minutes to clear away remnants of my breakfast and do some last-minute tasks. But the Milwaukee Health Department was one step ahead of me. As I walked in, the phone rang. Angie Hagy, the health director, was already downstairs.

I greeted Hagy at the door, but the inspector, Carly Hasler, was still outside parking her car. To buy a few minutes, I asked Hagy if she wouldn't mind letting Hasler in. She was onto me.



PHOTOS BY RICK WOOD, MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL/MCT

Milwaukee health inspector Carly Hasler, left, talks with reporter Lydia Mulvany during a visit to Mulvany's kitchen.

"Are you going to go frantically clean?" she said.

When they came in, we got right down to business and washed our hands the approved way, for 20 seconds.

Then the violations started piling up. Hasler asked for paper towels to dry her hands. I had some under the sink. As for the hand towel hanging on the oven door that I actually use for hand drying? Violation.

I hadn't been able to stash away the breakfast evidence, so I picked up a violation there, too. I'd sliced cheese on counter space next to my sink, but food preparation has to be done away from the potential spray of dirty dishwasher.

I was upfront about some of my sins. I don't have a trash can, for

example. I just hang a plastic bag that I throw out every day.

I also got dinged for how I stored my wooden spoons and ladles. The handles should be sticking up out of the utensil holder, not the other way around.

As Hasler continued her walk-through, poking around in my refrigerator and opening drawers, it became clear that home kitchens aren't really designed with food safety in mind. For example, my refrigerator, like most, has crispers/drawers for fresh foods on the bottom, which means raw meat and eggs go on the shelves above. That's the opposite of what's required of restaurants, since any leaks would contaminate everything below.

Hasler took the temperature of my refrigerator to make sure it

was below 41 degrees and tested the air inside of an applesauce jar to make sure it was cold enough. The thermometer registered 35 degrees on both. Although I passed, I'd never have known if there was a problem.

After the walk-through, I began preparing lunch: fettuccine with sausage and cream sauce, and a simple salad. I grabbed some onions and raw sausage and carried them as far away as I could from the sinks.

It was inevitable something would go awry with the raw sausage. When I finished cutting it, I washed my hands, but turned on the faucet with my contaminated fingers. Technically, I should have used my clean wrist, Hasler said.

The hardest thing about having the health director to lunch is resisting the urge to continually nibble away at the creamy pasta sauce. Like many people, I love to eat as I cook.

"I can't use this to taste the sauce, right?" I asked.

Hagy's reply was stern. I'd have to use a new spoon each time I took a bite. I only got one spoonful in before lunch was served.

One of my final violations was handling the salad with my bare hands. In a restaurant, I would have worn gloves; even at home, Hasler said, I should use tongs to wash and toss the salad.

In the end, they slapped me with eight "critical" violations, infractions that are more likely than others to cause a foodborne illness. On the upside, Hasler and Hagy ate the pasta and salad, and neither of them got food poisoning later. (Yes, I checked.)

"We wouldn't shut you down, but there were definitely some critical things that we'd come back and check on," Hasler said. Next time, I'll get home a little earlier.

FOOD SAFETY TIPS

Keep your kitchen safe from bacteria and food-borne illness with these tips:

- **When shopping:** At the grocery store, shop for paper products, boxed and canned items first, then frozen items and refrigerated items last. Wrap raw meats in a plastic bag, and place on a shelf beneath the cart.

- **Test the fridge:** Take your refrigerator's temperature. It should be 41 degrees or lower. And make sure food in your freezer is frozen.

- **Thawing:** Don't thaw frozen food on the countertop. Thaw it in the refrigerator, under cold running water or in the microwave.

- **Raw meat:** Don't let raw meat, seafood or eggs come into contact with other food. That's called cross-contamination — don't do it!

- **Wash, wash, wash:** Wash hands and surfaces often.

Wash your hands with warm water and soap for 20 seconds, then dry with disposable towels in these situations, among others:

- before handling food, after using the bathroom, between tasks like handling raw meat and preparing other foods.

- **No hands:** Use tongs or other utensils to handle food whenever possible.

- **Sanitize:** Clean and sanitize all surfaces, including the sink, before preparing food and between tasks that contaminate cutting boards, knives and other surfaces. Use bleach to sanitize, with a solution of one teaspoon of bleach per quart of water.

- **Cook to proper temperature:** Poultry and stuffed meats to 165 degrees, ground meats to 155 degrees, pork and fish to 145 degrees and vegetables to 135 degrees. They should reach those temperatures for at least 15 seconds.

- **Keep at proper temperature:** Keep hot food at 135 degrees or higher. Once leftovers fall below that temperature, they have six hours to cool to a safe 41 degrees, and they should cool to 71 degrees in the first two hours. Otherwise, throw them away.

- **Big batches of leftovers:** Don't put that huge pot of steaming chili in the refrigerator — it won't cool fast enough, which means your dinner tomorrow will have been in the temperature "danger zone" where bacteria was fruitful and multiplied. Instead, fill your sink with ice, place the pot in there and stir until cooled. Or divide the leftovers into smaller, shallower containers.

MUSIC

NEW ALBUMS

**The Hold Steady**

Teeth Dreams (Razor & Tie)

The Hold Steady is a garage band at heart, but it's a two-car garage in a nice neighborhood, and there might be a Mercedes inside.

Singer Craig Finn and his mates have always come across like upper-middle-class products who are usually the oldest, smartest guys at the party — and thus the ones who tell the most interesting stories. “Teeth Dreams,” the Brooklyn band’s sixth album, is filled with Finn’s characteristically compelling characters, mostly female, as he sings about bad company, simple minds, night moves, life in the fast lane, dancing the night away and Pink Floyd. Rock doesn’t come much more classic.

To help keep the ‘70s alive, the Hold Steady doubles down on the guitars, and recent addition Steve Selvidge teams with band co-founder Tad Kubler to frame the songs with dense, shimmering sound. It’s often pretty, and it always packs plenty of punch. Horns? Strings? There’s no need when you’re a garage band.

— Steven Wine
The Associated Press



DANNY CLINCH/Courtesy of Big Hassle Media

The Hold Steady, from left: Bobby Drake, Steve Selvidge, Galen Polivka, Craig Finn and Tad Kubler.

Posthumous Cash album a personal project for son

By RANDY LEWIS
Los Angeles Times

When asked for the story behind this week’s posthumous release of Johnny Cash’s “Out Among the Stars,” a “lost” album recorded in the early ‘80s with faded Nashville producer Billy Sherrill, his son, John Carter Cash, quickly reels off a laundry list of reasons.

“It seemed to be a cohesive body of work,” Cash, 44, said from the family’s headquarters in Hendersonville, Tenn. A few years ago he came across the never-released recordings while organizing the bounty of archival materials left behind by his father and his mother, June Carter Cash, after their deaths in 2003.

“Working with (project co-producer) Steve Berkowitz,” he said, “it struck us as a unique and beautiful Johnny Cash record.”

But more than that, “Out Among the Stars” is a strong-personal project for John Carter Cash, the only child of Johnny and June.

“When these tapes were rediscovered and I heard them again, I was reminded of this man who was my friend,” said Cash, who was 14 when most of the album’s songs were recorded in 1984. “He and I were very close in 1980s. So it’s a really personal connection for me to hear this.”

The album includes two duets between Johnny and June, including “Baby Ride Easy,” a song that Carlene Carter — June’s daughter from her first marriage to country star Carl Smith — introduced to her mother and stepfather. (Carter also makes a present-day guest appearance on the recently completed track.)

There’s also a pairing of Cash and longtime pal Waylon



Jennings on Hank Snow’s classic “I’m Movin’ On” and “She Used to Love Me a Lot,” a dark ballad of lost love that also appears in a haunting bonus track produced by Elvis Costello, who be-

friendied Cash in the late 1970s.

Many longtime Cash fans are likely to find the album’s highlight to be “I Came to Believe,” one of two Cash originals. The song taps aspects of the recovery process that Cash experienced upon entering the Betty Ford Center in Palm Springs, Calif., after becoming addicted to pain medication.

“A lot of people don’t know it, but in the early ‘80s he had struggled with addiction, he had dark times and almost broke off his relationship and marriage with mother. It was a tough time, it really was,” John Carter Cash said.

Cash was known throughout his life for his deep spiritual conviction, even when he wrestled with drug abuse in the 1950s and 1960s that nearly took his life.

But while going through a 12-step program for the first time, Cash incorporated that experience into “I Came to Believe,” a waltz that stands as one of the most moving confessions of faith he ever recorded.

“When he came out (of the Betty Ford Center), after things had stabilized at home and it became apparent he was going to be a consistent human being again, he went into this period of great beauty within his soul,” John Carter Cash said. “That’s when he began to write a novel, called ‘Man in White,’ which was released not too long after that.”

One reason these recordings never surfaced previously is that most weren’t finished. John Carter Cash noted there were no guitar solos and that some of the other musical accompaniment was sparse, but not intentionally unadorned in the manner of his father’s latter-day recordings with producer Rick Rubin.

So Cash’s son enlisted friends to provide missing parts, among them Marty Stuart, who had been in his father’s band and played on some of the original sessions, as well as several respected country and Americana players including Buddy Miller, Bryan Sutton and Jerry Douglas.

“It’s still Mr. Sherrill’s original production,” John Carter Cash said, “and that’s one of the highlights of the project. The real highlight is my father’s booming voice. It was just one vocal take on all this stuff. His voice never sounded better.”

Although there remains more unreleased material in the Cash archives, John Carter Cash said releases will be handled judiciously.

“It has to be right,” he said. “It has to stand out and it’s got to be something unique. We won’t want to put out just another Johnny Cash recording.”

MUSIC

SKRILLEX

Electronic musician/producer ramps up ambition as he releases his first album

By CHRIS TALBOTT
The Associated Press

Skrillex is taking his inspiration from Kanye West these days. The electronic music DJ and producer spent a little time with West, sharing a plane flight from Los Angeles to Las Vegas where each was to perform two years ago, and came away with an invitation to collaborate and an even deeper understanding of the possibilities in front of him.

"It was cool to see Kanye surrounded by all these creative people constantly on computers, approving stuff, coming up with ideas — the constant machine that Kanye was in the middle of," said Skrillex, whose real name is Sonny Moore. "And it reminded me a lot of my crew. We have so much going on 24-7 and we're always on our computers, we're all approving stuff and going back and forth with ideas. And to see him do it on a massive level is really cool. He's just so involved with every aspect of his career."

The 26-year-old Grammy Award winner has decided to emulate that model, and has begun building a creative center in downtown Los Angeles he calls The Nest. Eventually the goal is to have a space for friends — musicians and producers and members of his record label, OWSLA, but also other creatives in the visual and fashion world — to use as a hub, much in the way West keeps scores of satellites in orbit around him.

Skrillex's first official album, "Recess," out this week, is one of the most complex examples of this way of thinking. It was recorded as he toured the world and unfettered by corporate rules. His record label, Atlantic Records, had almost no input before it received the album, and is working mainly as a distributor and promoter.

"All the creative comes from us sitting together and vibing out," Moore said in a phone interview with his collaborators and business partners. "I'm making music and they're working on other artist stuff and we just kind of have this synergy going on that really bypasses the steps of having to do with a label and having to clear something through them, and hopefully they'll get out there and sell the record. It doesn't

have that (old label system) vibe. It's a whole different way of being. It's pure, you know?"

Instead of taking a seven-figure advance, Moore recorded "Recess" in much the way he's produced previous records — on the fly all over the world. As he played shows for a growing number of fans, he'd selectively invite new collaborators to join him as he made stops in New York, Los Angeles, Canada and the United Kingdom.

While in South Korea, he hooked up with G-Dragon and the YG Entertainment crew at the suggestion of Diplo and the result was "Dirty Vibe." He caught up with old friend Chance the Rapper at a show in Seattle and they banged out "Coast Is Clear" overnight with a full band.

"Recess" is the first formal release Moore has put out under the Skrillex moniker since 2011's "Bangarang" EP. He spent much of 2013 occupied with touring as Skrillex and with his band, Dog Blood. He scored Harmony Korine's "Spring Breakers" and worked on music obsessively. "Recess," it turns out, is just the initial salvo in 2014.

"This album is kind of like the first wave of a lot more stuff to come, just (songs) flying out left and right kind of thing," he said. "That's kind of what to expect: spontaneous releases. ... There's so many other collaborations that I can't really say yet but that have been left over from the record that I'm going to release soon that are so dope. I'm excited for the new stuff to come out that no one's heard yet."

Skrillex

Recess (Owsla/Big Beat/Atlantic)

Skrillex is this generation's rave king, a sultan of sub-bass EDM whose singular look (shaved sides, long locks, thick glasses) and double sound (dub-step's room-shaking wub, techno's deep drops) made him a hero to fans, remix clients and fellow producer/DJs alike.

He recently released "Recess" as his first solo album, first as an Android and iPhone app called Alien Ride. Now it's



plays up and deflates the foot-stomping machismo of dub-step, "Coast Is Clear" with guest Chicago sensation Chance the

out as a CD. "Recess" plays with the electro-music form, both reveling in and toying with his personal musical signatures. The hard-line "All Is Fair in Love and Brostep" both

Rapper, injects a delectable, dance-hop feel into the proceedings while bringing in buoyant brass and lush vocal harmonies for something fleshly and real. Speaking of fleshly and real, we really get both when Skrillex calls upon Philly's Diplo, whose grungy "Dirty Vibe" is aptly titled. Even when catchy, some of "Recess" can sometimes sound samey. Still, as far as samey goes, it's a good samey.

— A.D. Amorosi
The Philadelphia Inquirer

Various Artists

Divergent: Original Motion Picture Soundtrack (Interscope Records)

The latest dystopian young adult big-screen adaptation, "Divergent," is succeeding at the box office, although its soundtrack offers an uneven bag of tracks.

The film, highlighted by teenage angst overwrought by societal structure, could translate into a group of edgy, resonating songs,

but the reality is that few rise to the challenge. Ellie Goulding overcontributes with her brand of manic pixie dream girl electro pop on four tracks (three only on the non-digital version).

The first single — Zedd's piano ballad turned triumphant dance song, "Find You" — is neither convincing nor very interesting to anyone other than the Saturday night club crowd. And Goulding's "Beating Heart" is a stroke away

from flatlining.

The album starts off slow with run-of-the-mill dance tracks before it gets bizarre and wonderful with Tame Impala and Kendrick Lamar's "Backwards," which mixes a hypnotic '60s sound with some epic rapping. M83's "I Need You" takes a weird sax and blends it with an even weirder wailing Auto-tune. ASAP Rocky's contribution, "In Distress," is probably the most alienating and enticing

of the whole album — the barked electro background is stabilized by his rapping, which turns into a melodic howl. Pretty Lights' "Lost and Found" adds another layer of meditative sounds, skipping back and forth from uplifting pop to an exotic string sound.

Overall, though, the soundtrack barely passes the aptitude test into the Dauntless.

— Cristina Jaleru
The Associated Press





Independent News for the U.S. Military Community

*Whenever They Fight
and Wherever They Live*



The first Stars and Stripes was produced by Union soldiers during the Civil War. In 1861, using the facilities of a captured newspaper office in Bloomfield, Mo., they ran off a one-page paper.

Stars and Stripes was revived during World War I. Our first edition appeared in Paris on February 8, 1918. Produced weekly by an all-military staff, the paper served the doughboys of the American Expeditionary Force (AEF), under General of the Armies John J. Pershing.

The newspaper ceased printing at the war's end, only to enjoy a second renaissance. Starting on April 18, 1942, a small group of servicemen began publishing a four-page weekly Stars and Stripes in London. They sold each copy for "tuppence" (two English pence or about 5 cents) and in no time doubled their page count to eight pages, printing daily instead of weekly.

The first edition of Stars and Stripes published during World War II featured an interview with Gen. George C. Marshall, Army Chief of Staff. Marshall quoted Gen. Pershing, World War I Commander of the AEF, who said that Stripes had been a major factor in sustaining morale. Stars and Stripes also found a special champion and protector in Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, Supreme Allied Commander and later president of the United States. Eisenhower enforced a

hands-off policy in regard to Stars and Stripes that continues to the present day.

Operations expanded, following GIs to the battlefield to bring them the news. During the war, Stars and Stripes published as many as 32 separate editions, with page counts running up to 24 pages per issue.

At one time, Stars and Stripes had up to 25 printing locations in Europe, North Africa, the Middle East and the Pacific. The Pacific edition was launched a week after VE day (Victory in Europe, May 8, 1945).

In the years that followed World War II, Stripes reporters and photographers continued to join American troops in the field. Throughout the Korean and Vietnam conflicts, Stars and Stripes published the news. The paper was there in the 1990s during Operations Desert Shield, Desert Storm, and Provide Comfort and in Bosnia and Kosovo.

From the 2003 outset of Operation Enduring Freedom, Stars and Stripes was there to report first-hand. The war in Afghanistan continues to receive steady coverage. And during Operation Iraqi Freedom, Stripes reporters embedded with military units in Kuwait and Iraq, as well as on Navy ships in the region.

As the "hometown newspaper" for servicemembers, government civilians and their families in Europe, the Middle East and the Pacific, Stars and Stripes offers the same types of national and world news, sports and opinion columns found in newspapers in the United States.

Stripes.com coverage ranges from breaking military news reported from bases around the world to local DODDS high school sports. The paper is also available online in PDF format.

Stars and Stripes is available for iPhone and Android smartphones and a Tablet Edition is available for the Apple iPad.

Washington, D.C., hosts the Central office, where the editions are transmitted to printing facilities in Spain, Germany, Italy, UK, Japan, South Korea, Guam, Afghanistan, Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, and Djibouti.

Stars and Stripes also publishes several weeklies (in Okinawa, Guam, Kanto Plain and Korea) designed to serve the needs of their respective military communities.

A U.S. edition comprised exclusively of Stars and Stripes reports from around the world launched in 2008 to serve servicemembers who have returned from overseas tours. The U.S. edition is published in partnership with commercial newspaper publishers who serve communities with large military populations.



RECOGNIZED FOR EXCELLENCE

2013 National Headline Awards –
Second Place: News Series
(Forever After: A Warrior Wounded;
A Family Challenged)

2013 min Best of Web: Redesign –
Honorable Mention
Stripes UK website

2011 Military Photographer of the Year –
Honorable Mention
Recipient: Joshua DeMotts

2011 Sigma Delta Chi Award –
Breaking News Photography (Newspaper
Circulation 100,001+ or Affiliated
Website/National Magazine)
Recipient: Laura Rauch: "For those
I love I will sacrifice"

**2011 John Reagan "Tex" McCrary
Award for Excellence in Journalism –**
Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation

2010 Military Reporters and Editors Awards –
Overseas coverage (< 100,000 circulation)
Recipient: Jon Rabinoff

2010 National Headliner Awards –
First Place: Public Service (Forcing Change) –
Third Place: News Series
(Coming Home: The Men of Triple Deuce)

2009 George Polk Awards in Journalism –
George Polk Award for Military Reporting
Recipients: Charlie Reed, Leo Shane III
and Kevin Baron

2009 min Editorial & Design Awards –
Editorial Print / Special Supplement: HEROES 2009;
Custom Publication Design: Stripes GAMER

2007 Military Reporters and Editors Awards –
Overseas coverage (< 100,000 circulation)
Recipient: Monte Morin

2006 Military Reporters and Editors Awards –
Overseas coverage (< 100,000 circulation)
Recipients: Monte Morin, Joe Giordano;
Honorable mention: Nancy Montgomery
Photography: Fred Zimmerman

2006 NAA ACME Award of Excellence –
Youth Oriented Ad Series/Campaign:
Stripes GAMER;
Entertainment Promotions: Tales from the Crib

2005 Military Reporters and Editors Awards –
Overseas coverage (< 100,000 circulation)
Recipient: Steve Liever
Photography: Terry Boyd

**2004 American Legion Excellence
in Journalism Award –**
Ground Truth Series

**2003 Scripps Howard Foundation
National Journalism Award –**
First Amendment, Finalist

STARS AND STRIPES

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: T equals S

STARS AND STRIPES

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OPINION

Lend more help to military families

Star Tribune (Minneapolis) editorial

Three years ago, a congressional hearing put a spotlight on shameful home loan practices that subjected military families to overcharges, harassing collection calls, "accidental" foreclosures and the denial of special legal protections aimed at easing the financial strain of active-duty service. While banking behemoths promised to fix mistakes, an alarming new report from a fledgling federal consumer protection agency makes it clear that abuses of military consumers are still occurring across the financial services industry and that heavy lifting is needed on the home front to enforce existing safeguards against predatory loan evictions and default judgments and to guard against deceptive debt collectors.

Doing so is not just in the troops' best interest, it's also in the nation's best interests. Especially when forces are on the front lines, "We don't want them to worry about financial problems while they are worrying about the nation's business," said Rep. Tim Walz, a Democrat who represents southern Minnesota. Walz is a former Army National Guard sergeant major.

The report — detailing dubious practices such as default judgments and attempts to collect nonexistent debts, as well as lack of awareness about military protections for home and student loans — was released this month by the Office of Servicemem-

ber Affairs, part of the new and embattled Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. The CFPB was established in sweeping bank reforms enacted in 2010 after the mortgage-meltdown-fueled financial collapse of 2008.

The CFPB's mission: to bring a consumer protection perspective to financial regulation and to provide federal oversight to parts of the market where it had been sorely lacking, such as payday lenders, debt collectors and credit reporting agencies. There was such concern about military families when the law was passed that Congress specified that the new agency would have a dedicated office for military consumers. Holly Petraeus, who has a long family history of military service, is the office's assistant director.

There are already solid laws on the books to protect the financial security of military men and women. Provisions under the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act include a cap on interest rates, stays of proceedings and protections from evictions. The Military Lending Act guards against loans notorious for high interest rates, such as payday loans and auto title loans.

The problem is that servicemembers often are unaware of these safeguards. Many financial firms appear to be as well or, worse, they choose to ignore them, judging from the 14,100 complaints filed by military consumers with the CFPB from July 2011 to February 2014. The volume

of complaints filed with the agency surged 148 percent from 2012 to 2013, according to the report.

That increase is not only a reflection of military consumers' growing awareness of the CFPB, but of the need for an agency to assist them and all consumers with concerns like this. So far, the agency has recovered more than \$1 million on behalf of military consumers. More important, by tracking mistreatment, spotlighting existing protections and helping consumers get resolution, the CFPB is helping to deter future abuses of our troops.

The good work by Petraeus and this agency should be lauded by policymakers. Instead, the CFPB is under attack in Congress, where the Republican-controlled House recently passed legislation to weaken it.

The CFPB has few fans within the politically powerful financial services industry. That's not surprising. Before the agency began operation in 2011, regulators often seemed more interested in protecting financial firms than overseeing them. The CFPB puts consumers first — a much-needed change already improving the day-to-day lives of military families.

The CFPB is off to a promising start, as the new report from Petraeus' office shows. Lawmakers should let the agency do its work instead of doing the bidding of wealthy special interests to undermine its important mission.

N. Korea not the first to tighten grip with hair

By JAKE SCOBEY-THAL

Foreign Policy

LISTEN UP, depraved youth of North Korea: Your long-haired revolution is officially over.

According to Radio Free Asia, the North Korean government has introduced guidelines mandating all male university students get the same haircut as Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un — a tight fade on the sides and an awkward middle part on a floppy cut up top. The decree was reportedly issued in the capital, Pyongyang, two weeks ago and is now being implemented nationwide.

As with most stories out of the Hermit Kingdom, these latest claims about North Korean fashion come thinly sourced. The story may very well be false — its veracity has already been called into question. But if true, it wouldn't be the first time the government has sought to impose restrictions on hairstyles. Last year, the regime outlined 28 acceptable cuts — 10 for men and 18 for women — that were showcased in framed photos in hair salons in Pyongyang. And in 2005, North Korea launched a crusade against long hair. A media campaign declaring "let us trim our hair in accordance with Socialist lifestyle" urged men to shear based on "the demands of the military-first era." Hair, wrote Minju Chon, a government daily, is a "very important issue that shows the people's cultural standards and mental and moral state."

In the magnitude of its depression and deplorable human rights record, North Korea is unique; in its alleged strategy of

social control by buzzcut, it is not. In fact, authoritarian regimes around the world have for centuries imposed their political will by regulating men's looks.

After the Manchus conquered China in the 1640s, the empire's new rulers issued an edict forcing all adult men to shave the front of their head and tie the remaining hair in a queue, a long braided ponytail. The rule was imposed under penalty of death. The edict, former American diplomat Edward Earl Rice writes in his book, "Mao's Way," reminded the "Chinese of their subordination to Manchu rule." From the conquerors' perspective, "the command to cut one's hair or lose one's head not only brought rulers and subjects together into a single physical resemblance; it also provided them with a perfect loyalty test," the historian Frederic Wakeman notes in "The Great Enterprise," his book about the Manchu conquest.

Around the same time in Russia, Peter the Great attempted to stamp out beards, which he viewed as a hopeless relic of his country's past. Hoping to modernize Russia in the mold of the West, he imposed a beard tax. Individuals who paid the tariff were given a copper token inscribed with the motto: "The beard is a useless burden."

Several centuries later, during the 1970s, Albanian dictator Enver Hoxha did away with such free-market methods and outlawed beards altogether. Sparaparmut Niyazov, the former president of Turkmenistan, mimicked this crackdown on personal freedom when he appeared on television in February 2004 to decree that

young men could no longer grow out their hair or beards.

Elsewhere in the world, decrees governing grooming have often been issued in the name of Islam. After the Taliban took control of Afghanistan in 1996, they required men to wear beards in accordance with the militants' harsh interpretation of Shariah law. In 2010, Islamic militants in Somalia ordered men in the capital of Mogadishu to leave beards untrimmed.

Iran's clerics imposed their own brand of religiously motivated restrictions in 2010: ponytails and mullets were out, in favor of tightly coiffed crew-cuts and side-parts. "The proposed styles are inspired by Iranians' complexion, culture and religion, and Islamic law," said Jaleh Khodayer, the director of Iran's Veil and Chastity Day festival. Hair gel was permitted, but only in modest quantities.

Regardless of religion, authoritarianism doesn't seem to have much love for hippies. After overthrowing Greece's elected government in a 1967 military coup, strongman Georgios Papadopoulos banned "decadent" long hair for men and miniskirts for women. During the 1970s, Singapore's Lee Kuan Yew denied some foreigners entry into Singapore if their hair was too long. Young people without a clean cut, as Alex Josey writes in his book "Lee Kuan Yew: The Crucial Years," "were not employed as caddies at the golf courses where Lee swings his clubs."

Power: Sometimes it grows from a barber's clippers.

Tell us what you think

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OPINION

Dynasties aren't what's best for democracy

By JONATHAN ZIMMERMAN

A few years ago, I found myself sitting on an airplane next to a gentleman from Egypt. Talk quickly turned to the upheaval in his country, where the so-called Arab Spring was in full bloom.

"We want a real democracy," he told me, "not like yours." When I pressed him to elaborate, he shot back with a question of his own. "How many times have you voted?" he asked, "when someone named 'Bush' or 'Clinton' wasn't running?"

The answer, I sheepishly admitted, was once: in 2008. Before that — going back to 1980, the first year I cast a ballot — every single presidential ticket featured someone from one of those two families.

That's not good for our image overseas, or for our democracy at home. We tell the world that we're a land of opportunity, where anyone can grow up to be the president. Then we limit ourselves to a handful of political dynasties.

Lately, there's been a lot of talk of another Clinton-vs.-Bush contest. With her huge fundraising apparatus and name recognition, Hillary Rodham Clinton is the hands-down Democratic front-runner for 2016. Meanwhile, Jeb Bush seems to be laying the groundwork to capture the GOP nomination.

Of course, neither Clinton nor Bush has announced any such plan. But the "super PAC" Ready for Hillary has already raised \$4 million simply to "encourage" her to run. And Bush is canvassing the country like a presidential candidate, visiting three states over the next few weeks to campaign for fellow Republicans.

Of course, they're hardly the first American politicians to exploit family connections. Our sixth president, John Quincy Adams, was the son of our second one; Benjamin Harrison's grandfather William spent a very brief time in the White House half a century earlier; Franklin D. Roosevelt was preceded by Theodore, his distant cousin.

More recently, consider New York Govs.



LARA SOLT, THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS/AP

Left: Former Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton speaks at an education conference in Irving, Texas, on Monday. Right: Former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush participates in an education forum in Las Vegas on Thursday. Their surnames are familiar to voters.



JEFF SCHEIDT, LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL/AP

Cuomo (Mario and Andrew) or the Al Gores, Sr. and Jr., who served as senators from Tennessee. And then there are the Kennedys, who made no bones about their dynastic ambitions.

Joseph P. Kennedy drafted his son John into politics after the death of JFK's older brother. And when JFK vacated his Massachusetts Senate seat to enter the White House, his father anointed the youngest Kennedy, 30-year-old Teddy, as his successor. "Look, I spent a lot of money for that Senate seat," Joseph Kennedy said. "It belongs in the family."

But we've never had a time when presidential politics is as dominated by a few select bloodlines. That limits the pool of eligible national leaders, which is bad enough. But it also makes it harder for them to govern once they get to the White House, where they must simultaneously demonstrate fealty to the family and independence from it.

That's the story of George W. Bush, who frequently pulled out his birth certificate during his first political campaign — a failed bid for Congress in 1978 — to show that his middle name (Walker) was dif-

ferent from his father's (Herbert Walker). "Would you like me to run as Sam Smith?" a frustrated Bush asked. "The problem is I can't abandon my background."

Once he became president, though, Bush also had to prove he was his own man. His invasion of Iraq was at least partially motivated by his father's refusal to occupy it during the Persian Gulf War. But it also appeared to be aimed at exacting revenge on Saddam Hussein, who had plotted to assassinate the elder Bush. "This is the guy who tried to kill my dad," Bush told a campaign rally, six months before the Iraq invasion. Never mind that President Bill Clinton had earlier ordered a missile strike on Iraq to retaliate for the plot. This was about family.

And make no mistake, another Clinton presidency would be about family too. One way or another, everything Hillary Clinton does will address her husband's legacy. His fundraising acumen powered her ascent into the Senate, and he'd obviously be a key player in her presidency, just like she was in his.

As for Jeb Bush, nobody will forget that he was governor of Florida when a highly controversial recount there catapulted his brother into the White House. Bush has said that he moved from Texas to Florida to "get out from [his] father's shadow."

Yet he'll never be able to escape it, or his brother's.

"Dynasty, shmynasty," Jeb Bush quipped in 2000, dismissing the concept. But at least one member of the family recognizes its dangers. "If we can't find more than two or three families to run for office, that's silly," Jeb's mother, Barbara, said in an interview in January. "The Kennedys, Clintons, Bushes — there are just more families than that."

She's right. It's time to send a different one to the White House. That's what a real democracy would do.

Jonathan Zimmerman teaches history and education at New York University. His most recent book is "Small Wonder: The Little Red Schoolhouse in History and Memory." This column first appeared in the Los Angeles Times.

Tough to avert children's eyes from shocking sights

By SARAH MARANISS VANDER SCHAFF

It was nearly 8 years old when an Air Florida Boeing 737-200 crashed into the 14th Street Bridge in Washington and fell into the Potomac River on Jan. 13, 1982. I remember standing near the TV, watching the news coverage of a man treading water in the freezing river while trying to save passengers.

The previous March, I'd watched the same TV while reporters discussed the condition of President Ronald Reagan and three others shot at the Washington Hilton.

We lived in Maryland, but our lives were focused on Washington and, because my dad worked at The Washington Post, on news.

Perhaps it's fitting that one of my strongest memories of giving birth to my oldest daughter is that the TV was on in the hospital room and Tim Russert on "Meet the Press" was talking about the smoke emanating from a chimney in the Sistine Chapel. Also, contractions. Those I remember.

That little girl born just after the death of Pope John Paul II is now 8 years old.

She was born after 9/11, but the world was then tragically since, from a tsunami to a nuclear disaster to the killing of school children in Newtown, Conn. And whenever

such events occur, I retreat from the news. TV off. No NPR in the car. Newspapers removed from the dining room table.

When it comes to letting my kids learn about disturbing world events as they unfold, like so many of my friends, I have pushed back against my baby boomer tutelage, one that not only let me hear the news of the world but also let me see, with honesty, how it affected the adults in my life. Could I spare my own kids from the confusion and anxiety that sometimes created?

I've long thought it was because my parents came of age in the late '60s that I was given a childhood that honored my liberation and personhood, sometimes, it seemed, more than my youth when it came to news. Maybe it was really because my dad brought home carbon typing paper and red grease pencils for editing, carried a reporter's notebook and taught me, by age 6, "to always be one step ahead of your editor."

As a kid, if there was news, I knew it. And this was before the explosion in information and technology.

Was it good that I knew, as a 3-year-old, that Elvis had been found dead in a bathroom? That I learned how to tie my shoelaces while watching reports on the Camp David Accords?

I remember sleeping on my big brother's

bedroom floor one night, afraid he might be drafted to fight a war somewhere in Africa. He was 12. And going to a therapist who taught me breathing exercises because I worried Moammar Gadhafi would hijack the plane when I visited my grandparents in Florida.

That is why my daughter, the granddaughter and great-granddaughter of journalists, became aware of the disappearance of Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 after more than two weeks had passed, despite the unusual story dominating the news.

One day last week, on a visit to my folks, my daughter and I went with my dad to CNN so he could talk politics on a morning show.

In the green room, she was quiet. In fact, for the first time in about six years, she went five minutes without asking a question that began with "why."

People came in and out of the room. Many, it seemed, were aviation experts, quickly escorted to tiny interview rooms off the main hallway.

I turned and noticed the TV screen behind me, the one with its volume off, the one my daughter had been focused on once we walked in, the one showing ongoing coverage of the missing airliner: a host, journalists, experts, maps, re-creations, images of the plane's flight path and poten-

tial fate. There was no volume, but the kid could read. The captions and the crawl told the story.

So that was it. The jig was up.

It wasn't a president's shooting, or a plane in the Potomac, or an act of terrorism over Lockerbie, Scotland. It was a plane with 239 people that disappeared from the world.

I asked her if she wanted me to explain what she had seen. She did. So I tried.

And then I asked what she thought might have happened to the plane.

"Maybe it landed on the moon," she said.

She didn't say it out of a naive understanding of space travel; she said it because she can still hold the hope that if reality is inscrutable, then the unfathomable can somehow be reality.

I remember feeling that, too, when I was her age. It's part of the news story finished in your imagination. I can tell her that.

But some piece of the protective layer I had imagined I'd created around her has forever been torn open. I can't patch it, and now she knows I made it.

Sarah Maraniss Vander Schaff blogs about life, parenthood and education at Lunch Box Mom and TheEducatedMom.com. This column first appeared in The Washington Post.

MLB/SPORTS BRIEFS



KATHY WILLIAMS/AP

Detroit's Miguel Cabrera will earn a baseball-record \$292 million over the next decade after inking an eight-year, \$248 million deal with the Tigers.

Cabrera set to earn record \$292 million over next decade

By LARRY LAGE
The Associated Press

DETROIT — Triple Crown winner Miguel Cabrera will earn a baseball-record \$292 million over the next decade under a \$248 million, eight-year deal with the Detroit Tigers through 2023.

Cabrera is due \$44 million over the final two years of his \$152.3 million, eight-year contract that runs through 2015. The new deal was announced Friday at a news conference in Lakeland, Fla.

The contract's average of \$31 million tops the previous mark of \$30.714,286 set by Los Angeles Dodgers pitcher Clayton Kershaw in his \$215 million, seven-year deal in January. The total commitment tops the record set by New York Yankees third baseman Alex Rodriguez with a \$275 million, 10-year agreement in 2007.

Cabrera will make \$45,858 per plate appearance under the new deal's \$31 million average annual value, based on his yearly average of 676 plate appearances during six seasons with the Tigers. That's higher than the average U.S. yearly wage of \$42,498 in 2012, according to the Social Security Administration.

The Tigers and owner Mike Ilitch, who desperately wants to win a World Series, close spring training showing their fans they are willing to pay what it takes to keep great players in town's market.

The franchise offered right-hander Max Scherzer \$144 million over six years this month, but the AL Cy Young award winner turned it down, likely setting himself up to become a free agent after the World Series. Detroit dealt Prince Fielder and his \$214 million contract in November to Texas — less than two years after giving it to him — for second baseman Ian Kinsler, and is

sending \$30 million to the Rangers as part of the swap.

Clearly, the Tigers want Cabrera to end his career in the Motor City.

Cabrera, who turns 31 on April 18, has been voted AL MVP in each of the last two seasons. He is the first player to win the award in consecutive seasons since Frank Thomas two decades ago. The Venezuelan slugger won the Triple Crown in 2012 — becoming the first player to lead either league in batting average, homers and RBIs since 1967, when Boston's Carl Yastrzemski pulled off the feat.

Cabrera followed that starting year with another strong season despite struggling to stay healthy. He led the majors with a .348 average last year, and his 44 homers and 137 RBIs were both second to Baltimore's Chris Davis.

Cabrera was limited to 148 games last season — after playing 161 in each of the previous two years — because of a sore back and left hip flexor, a strained lower abdomen, shin trouble and a groin tear that led to offseason surgery.

The eight-time All-Star has appeared to be healthy during spring training. And injuries seem to be the only thing that can stop Cabrera.

He has a .321 career average with 365 homers and 1,260 RBIs, numbers that rank him with the greatest sluggers in the history of the game. He has played six seasons in Detroit after spending his first five with the Marlins.

"He's got an unbelievable stroke," Hall of Famer Al Kaline, who works in the Tigers' front office, once said. "It's so effortless the way he gets through the zone so easily."

The Tigers have won three straight AL Central titles in part because Cabrera has led the league with averages of .348, .330 and .344. He has led the league in homers and RBIs twice.

Scoreboard

American League

	W	L	Pct	GB
Baltimore	0	0	.000	—
Boston	0	0	.000	—
New York	0	0	.000	—
Tampa Bay	0	0	.000	—
Toronto	0	0	.000	—

Central Division

Chicago	0	0	.000	—
Cleveland	0	0	.000	—
Detroit	0	0	.000	—
Kansas City	0	0	.000	—
Minnesota	0	0	.000	—

West Division

Houston	0	0	.000	—
Los Angeles	0	0	.000	—
Oakland	0	0	.000	—
Seattle	0	0	.000	—
Texas	0	0	.000	—

National League

	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	0	0	.000	—
Arizona	0	0	.000	—
New York	0	0	.000	—
Philadelphia	0	0	.000	—
Washington	0	0	.000	—

Central Division

Chicago	0	0	.000	—
Cincinnati	0	0	.000	—
Milwaukee	0	0	.000	—
Pittsburgh	0	0	.000	—
St. Louis	0	0	.000	—

West Division

Los Angeles	2	0	1.000	—
Colorado	0	0	.000	—
San Diego	0	0	.000	—
San Francisco	0	0	.000	—
Arizona	0	0	.000	—

Sunday's game

L.A. Dodgers (0-0) at San Diego (Cashner 0-0)

Monday's games

Chicago Cubs (Samardzija, 0-0) at Pittsburgh (Lirio, 0-0)

Boston (Lester 0-0) at Baltimore (Tillman 0-0)

Minnesota (Nolasco 0-0) at Chicago White Sox (Sale 0-0)

St. Louis (Wainwright 0-0) at Cincinnati (Cueto 0-0)

Toronto (Dickey 0-0) at Tampa Bay (Fernandez 0-0)

Colorado (De La Rosa 0-0) at Miami (Price 0-0)

San Francisco (Bumgarner 0-0) at Arizona (McCarthy 0-0)

Cleveland (Masterson 0-0) at Oakland (Gray 0-0)

Seattle (Hernandez 0-0) at Anaheim (TBD)

Calendar

March 26 — Last day to request unconditional release waivers on a player without having to pay his full 2014 salary.

March 30 — Opening day in North America. Los Angeles Dodgers at San Diego. Active rosters reduced to 25 players.

June 5 — Amateur draft.

July 15 — All-Star Game, Minneapolis.

July 18 — Deadline for amateur draft picks to sign.

July 27 — Hall of Fame inductions, Cooperstown, N.Y.

Aug. 31 — Last day to trade a player without securing waivers.

Sept. 1 — Active rosters expand to 40 players.



MICHELLE O'CONNOR/AP

Ryu Hyun-jin will get the starting nod for the Los Angeles Dodgers on Sunday in San Diego for the Padres' season opener.

Briefly

Manziel wows at his NFL pro day

The Associated Press

COLLEGE STATION, Texas — Johnny Manziel put on a show at his NFL pro day for an audience that included former President George H.W. Bush.

The 2012 Heisman Trophy winner threw for 75 officials from 30 teams on the Texas A&M campus on Thursday.

He also had some special guests, as the former President and wife Barbara rolled into the facility on golf carts about 10 minutes into the workout.

Manziel threw about 65 passes to six receivers, including A&M teammate Mike Evans, who like Manziel is expected to be a first-round pick in May's draft. Manziel caused a stir by choosing to wear a helmet and shoulder pads during the workout.

Manziel didn't understand why it was a big deal, saying: "You play the game on shoulder pads on Sundays. Why not come out and do it? ... For me it was a no-brainer."

In other NFL news:
■ The Philadelphia Eagles have released wide receiver DeSean Jackson.

The team cut Jackson on Friday. He was coming off a career-best season in Philadelphia, leading the team with 82 catches for 1,332 yards and nine touchdowns.

Jackson had a \$10.25 million contract for the 2014 season, a stiff price the Eagles were not willing to pay. He was signed through 2016.

He has 356 career receptions for 6,117 yards and 32 touchdowns. The 27-year-old Jackson is entering his seventh season.

■ Mark Sanchez and Michael Vick have traded places.

Bounced out of New York after the Jets signed Vick last Friday, Sanchez agreed to a contract with the Philadelphia Eagles on Thursday, according to a person with knowledge of the agreement. The person spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the Eagles haven't officially announced the move.

Sanchez spent last season on injured reserve after tearing the labrum in his right shoulder in a preseason game.

■ The Seattle Seahawks have signed free agent cornerback Phillip Adams, adding depth to a secondary that has lost three players off last season's Super Bowl championship team.

■ The Tennessee Titans have agreed to a multiyear deal with linebacker Shaun Phillips. Phillips has missed only eight games in his career. He becomes the second linebacker Tennessee has signed this month who played for the Denver last season, joining Wesley Woodyard.

■ The Detroit Lions signed

James Iheodigbo to a \$3.1 million, two-year contract, according to a person familiar with the negotiations.

■ Baltimore Ravens running back Ray Rice has been indicted on a charge he assaulted his fiancée in an elevator at casino in Atlantic City, N.J.

Rice had been charged with simple assault after police said he knocked out Janay Palmer on Feb. 15 at the Revel Casino. But a grand jury indicted him Thursday on a more serious count of aggravated assault. It carries a three-to-five-year sentence.

■ Running back Knowshon Moreno has agreed to terms on a one-year contract with the Miami Dolphins, whose running game ranked 26th in the NFL last season.

Moreno, a five-year veteran, had his best season in 2013 when he rushed for 1,038 yards, caught 60 passes and scored 13 touchdowns playing with the Denver Broncos.

Colter: 'We know what we're doing' with union

BRADENTON, Fla. — Kain Colter is not completely sure what the landscape will one day look like if college athletes are allowed to unionize. He's just more convinced than ever that it's become necessary.

The former Northwestern quarterback, now essentially the face of the movement that could completely reshape college sports, said Thursday that a federal agency's decision to allow the Wildcats to form a union was an expected victory — but also represents just the first step in what he knows will be a lengthy process.

"There's so many different components," Colter said in an interview with The Associated Press. "But what this does ... it ensures that players have a voice and whatever route this goes and whatever structure comes from college sports, we have input. We're out there sacrificing so much. We're a big part of what college sports is today and the revenue that's generated off of it. We deserve to have a say in that. We deserve a seat at the table."

Williams wins 15th straight over Sharapova

KEY BISCAYNE, Florida — Serena Williams beat Maria Sharapova for the 15th consecutive time, rallying in both sets for a 6-4, 6-3 victory in the Sony Open semifinals on Thursday.

Williams, seeking a record seventh Key Biscayne title, improved to 16-2 against Sharapova and hasn't lost to her favorite foil since 2004.

AUTO RACING



DAVID J. PHILLIP/AP

New Zealand's Scott Dixon celebrates after winning the first IndyCar Grand Prix of Houston on Oct. 5. Much has changed since Dixon wrapped up his third IndyCar championship five months ago. He's got a new engine manufacturer in Chevrolet, and longtime teammate Dario Franchitti has retired and been replaced by Target Chip Ganassi Racing with Indianapolis 500 winner Tony Kanaan.

Dixon forced to defend title without Franchitti

Champ opens IndyCar season minus retired teammate

By JENNA FRYER
The Associated Press

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. So much has changed for Scott Dixon since he wrapped up his third IndyCar championship five months ago in California.

Target Chip Ganassi Racing's offseason move to Chevrolet has given Dixon a new engine for the year, and when he heads into Sunday's season-opener through the streets of St. Petersburg, he won't have longtime teammate Dario Franchitti alongside him for the first time in six years.

Franchitti was forced to retire because of injuries suffered in an October crash in Houston, and he's been replaced in the Target lineup by Indianapolis 500 winner Tony Kanaan.

Dixon and Franchitti were a fearsome duo for five seasons. With an open dialogue, teamwork and a tight friendship, the two combined for four championships, 29 victories and two Indianapolis 500 wins for Franchitti.

Now half of that pair is on the sidelines — Franchitti has taken a role as a driver coach with the Ganassi organization — and Dixon is adjusting to life without his close mate in the car.

"It is a big loss, not just for myself, but I think for the team and also for the series," Dixon said. "The positive side is that he's still going to be involved with the team. He's obviously very talented. He's won a lot of races, achieved many things. But when it comes down to the engineering side of it, his approach to a race weekend, I think it is something that will be missed a little bit. Hopefully with his involvement we can keep that going."

"As a friend, it is going to be great to have him around. We'll have to see how big that change is as we get through the year with different drivers and different combinations."



MICHAEL CONROY/AP

Injuries over the course of his career forced three-time Indianapolis 500 winner Franchitti to retire.

Dixon has had two chances to work with new teammate Kanaan on race weekends, both in the Tudor United Sports Car Series. They've also tested their Indy cars together, and Dixon doesn't seem concerned that his red No. 9 Target team will be any less formidable without Franchitti in the red No. 10.

"There's many different ways to look at it — I think TK is a great driver, he's won a championship, he's won many races," Dixon said. "He may be stronger in other areas and maybe a little weaker in others. I think with the team combination, drivers and engineering, we can try to bring that back together and make it a strong 1-2 punch."

The landscape of the series will be a bit different than that Juan Pablo Montoya has returned to open wheel after seven years in NASCAR. Once a teammate of Dixon's in the Ganassi organization, Montoya is now with rival Team Penske and determined to win races again.

Around the track

SPRINT CUP

This week: STP 500 at Martinsville, Va.

TV: AFN-Xtra, 7 p.m. Sunday, Central European Time.

Track: Martinsville Speedway (oval, 0.526 miles).

Race distance: 263 miles, 500 laps.

Last year: Jimmie Johnson raced to his eighth Martinsville victory.

Last week: Kyle Busch won at Fontana for the second straight year, holding off Kyle Larson, Tony Stewart and Kurt Busch in a two-lap sprint.

Fast facts: Richard Petty won a record 15 times at Martinsville, the only remaining venue from NASCAR's inaugural 1949 season.

Next race: Duck Commander 500, April 6, Texas Motor Speedway, Fort Worth, Texas.

Online: nascar.com

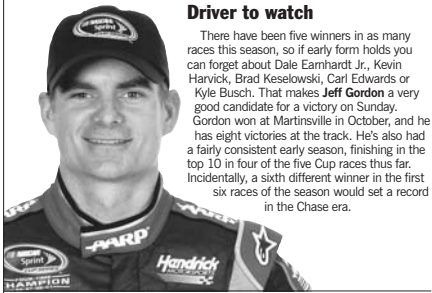
— The Associated Press

Driver standings

1. Carl Edwards.....	186
2. Dale Earnhardt Jr.....	185
3. Jeff Gordon.....	184
4. Brad Keselowski.....	182
5. Matt Kenseth.....	179
6. Jimmie Johnson.....	165
7. Kyle Busch.....	158
8. Ryan Newman.....	150
9. Austin Dillon.....	150
10. Joey Logano.....	146
11. Denny Hamlin.....	140
12. Jamie McMurray.....	138
13. Brian Vickers.....	137
14. Paul Menard.....	134
15. Ricky Stenhouse Jr.....	132
16. Kyle Larson.....	131
17. Tony Stewart.....	127
18. Casey Mears.....	126
19. Kasey Kahne.....	123
20. Marcos Ambrose.....	122

Driver to watch

There have been five winners in as many races this season, so if early form holds you can forget about Dale Earnhardt Jr., Kevin Harvick, Brad Keselowski, Carl Edwards or Kyle Busch. That makes **Jeff Gordon** a very good candidate for a victory on Sunday. Gordon won at Martinsville in October, and he has eight victories at the track. He's also had a fairly consistent early season, finishing in the top 10 in four of the five Cup races thus far. Incidentally, a sixth different winner in the first six races of the season would set a record in the Chase era.



NATIONWIDE SERIES

Next race: O'Reilly Auto Parts 300, April 4, Texas Motor Speedway, Fort Worth.

Last week: Kyle Larson raced to his first Nationwide win, holding off Kevin Harvick and Kyle Busch at Fontana.

Online: nascar.com

— The Associated Press

VERIZON INDYCAR

This week: Firestone Grand Prix at St. Petersburg, Fla.

TV: (Delayed), AFN-Xtra, 8:30 a.m. Monday, CET.

Track: Streets of St. Petersburg (street course, 1.8 miles).

Race distance: 198 miles, 110 laps.

Last year: James Hinchcliffe won the opener for Andretti Autosport.

Next race: Toyota Grand Prix of Long Beach, April 13, Streets of Long Beach, Calif.

Online: indycar.com

— The Associated Press

CAMPING WORLD TRUCKS SERIES

This week: Kroger 250 at Martinsville, Va.

TV: Martinsville Speedway (oval, 0.526 miles).

Race distance: 105.2 miles, 200 laps.

Last year: Johnny Sauter raced to his second straight victory.

Last race: Kyle Busch won at Daytona on Feb. 21.

Next race: North Carolina Education Lottery 200, May 16, Charlotte

Motor Speedway, Concord, N.C.

Online: nascar.com

— The Associated Press

FORMULA ONE

This week: Malaysian Grand Prix at Kuala Lumpur.

Track: Sepang International Circuit (road course, 3.44 miles).

Race distance: 192.88 miles, 56 laps.

Last year: Red Bull's Sebastian Vettel won after ignoring orders and overtaking teammate Mark Webber for the lead.

Last race: Mercedes' Nico Rosberg won the season-opening Australia Grand Prix on March 16.

Next race: Bahrain Grand Prix, April 6, Bahrain International Circuit, Sakhir.

Online: formula1.com

— The Associated Press

NHRA MELLO YELLO DRAG RACING

This week: SummitRacing.com NHRA Nationals at Las Vegas.

Track: The Strip at Las Vegas Motor Speedway.

Last year: Allen Johnson swept the I&H Horsepower Challenge event and regular Pro Stock competition. Tony Schumacher won in Top Fuel, and Cruz Pedregon topped Funny Car.

Last event: Robert Hight won the Gatornationals on March 26, beating John Force in Funny Car. Doug Kalitta (Top Fuel), Johnson (Pro Stock) and Steve Johnson (Pro Stock Motorcycle) also won.

Online: nhra.com

— The Associated Press

NBA



The Rockets' Dwight Howard dunks against Philadelphia's Thaddeus Young (21) as the 76ers' Hollis Thompson (31) and Michael Carter-Williams look on in Houston.

Roundup

76ers tie record for futility

The Associated Press

HOUSTON — Philadelphia coach Brett Brown was grasping for positives after his team tied an NBA record for futility by dropping its 26th straight game on Thursday night.

"We still don't have the poorest record in the league," said Brown, whose Sixers have won one more game than league-worst Milwaukee. "When you look at the realities of where we ended up, it's not as painful and as shocking as it may seem to others."

Regardless of the Bucks' record, Philadelphia's winless stretch has been matched in NBA history only by the 2010-11 Cleveland Cavaliers.

James Harden had 26 points, 10 rebounds and 10 assists in three quarters for his second career triple-double to lead the Houston Rockets to the 120-98 win — their fifth straight.

The 76ers (15-57) stuck around early before a big second-quarter run allowed the Rockets to pull away and win the win.

The 76ers can set the record for NBA ineptitude at home against

Detroit on Saturday.

The Sixers haven't won since Jan. 29 and are two games from going winless in two straight months. There was little visible emotion as the final seconds ticked away and the players slowly made their way off the court.

But rookie Michael Carter-Williams didn't like what he saw during the game and addressed the team afterward.

"During the game a couple of guys had long faces ... and I found myself a little bit down," said Carter-Williams, who had 10 assists. "I just don't want anyone in this locker room feeling bad for themselves ... I think that's really important that we don't get down on ourselves and we just give up just because we have a certain amount of losses."

Dwight Howard added 17 points and 13 rebounds for Houston. Terrence Jones had 20 points.

Trail Blazers 100, Hawks 85: LaMarcus Aldridge had 25 points and 16 rebounds in his return from a back injury, and Portland beat host Atlanta to end a three-game losing streak.

Damian Lillard added 21 points

for the Trail Blazers, who had lost seven of 10 and were in danger of falling out of the fifth spot in the Western Conference standings.

Clippers 109, Mavericks 103: Chris Paul scored 31 points, Blake Griffin added 18 points and 12 rebounds, and visiting Los Angeles rallied from a 10-point deficit in the fourth quarter to beat Dallas.

Vince Carter scored 23 points off the bench for the Mavericks, going 4-for-5 on three-pointers. Dirk Nowitzki had 21 points but only two in the fourth quarter.

Los Angeles maintained its one-game lead over Houston for second place in the Western Conference.

Bucks 108, Lakers 105: Brandon Knight scored 30 points, Ramon Sessions added 22 and host Milwaukee beat Los Angeles to break an eight-game losing streak.

The Bucks swept the season series with the Lakers for the first time since 2006-07. Knight scored a career-high 37 points in Milwaukee's 94-79 victory on Dec. 31 in the other meeting.

Scoreboard

Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division			
	W	L	Pct
Toronto	40	31	.563
Brooklyn	37	33	.529
New York	29	42	.417
Boston	23	48	.324
Philadelphia	15	57	.208

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct
Y-Miami	48	22	.686
Washington	36	35	.507
Charlotte	35	37	.486
Atlanta	31	40	.437
Orlando	20	52	.278

Central Division

	W	L	Pct
Y-Indiana	50	20	.714
Chicago	40	31	.563
Cleveland	39	44	.468
Detroit	26	45	.366
Milwaukee	14	58	.194

Western Conference

Southwest Division			
	W	L	Pct
x-San Antonio	55	16	.775
Houston	49	22	.690
Memphis	43	28	.606
Dallas	43	30	.589
New Orleans	31	40	.437

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct
x-Oklahoma City	52	19	.732
Portland	46	27	.630
Minnesota	35	48	.520
Denver	32	44	.424
Utah	49	39	.557

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct
L.A. Clippers	51	22	.699
Golden State	44	27	.620
Phoenix	43	29	.597
Sacramento	35	46	.435
L.A. Lakers	24	47	.338

y-clinched playoff spot			
y-clinched division			
Phoenix 50, Boston 53	Charlotte 116, Brooklyn 111, OT	Toronto 99, Boston 90	Cleveland 97, Detroit 96
Minnesota 107, Atlanta 83	New Orleans 98, L.A. Clippers 96	Indiana 84, Miami 83	San Antonio 108, Denver 103
New York 107, Sacramento 99	Memphis 91, Utah 87	Thursday's games	Portland 100, Atlanta 85
Houston 120, Philadelphia 98	Milwaukee 108, L.A. Lakers 105	L.A. Clippers 109, Dallas 103	Friday's games
Charlotte at Orlando	Indiana at Washington	Boston at Toronto	Cleveland at Brooklyn
Miami at Detroit	Portland at Chicago	L.A. Lakers at Minnesota	Sacramento at Oklahoma City
Utah at New Orleans	San Antonio at Denver	New York at Phoenix	Memphis at Golden State
Detroit at Philadelphia	L.A. Clippers at Houston	Atlanta at Washington	Sacramento at Dallas
Miami at Milwaukee	New Orleans at San Antonio	Thursday	Clippers 109, Mavericks 103

L.A. CLIPPERS — Barnes 4-12 3-4 12, Griffin 8-14 2-3 18, Jordan 7-9 2-2 16, Paul 9-18 5-10 31, Collison 4-9 0-0 11, Davis 1-2 0-0 2, Crawford 3-12 6-14, Dudley 1-2 0-0 3, Granger 0-0 2-2, Green 0-0 0-0 0, Thomas 38-82 22-29, 103.			
MILWAUKEE — Marbury 2-8 0-0 4, Nowitzki 7-15 5-10 21, Dalember 3-10 6-6, Calderon 3-6 0-0 8, Ellis 4-19 4-14, Carter 9-13 1-2 3, Blair 0-0 0-0 0, Harris 1-5 4-5 7, Crowder 5-22 1-3, Wright 3-3 2-4 8, Totals 37-79 27-103.			
L.A. CLIPPERS			
29	29	31	22-103
Dallas	29	31	21-103

THURSDAY			
CLIPPERS 109, MAVERICKS 103			

THURSDAY			
CLIPPERS 109, MAVERICKS 103			

THURSDAY			
CLIPPERS 109, MAVERICKS 103			

THURSDAY			
CLIPPERS 109, MAVERICKS 103			

THURSDAY			
CLIPPERS 109, MAVERICKS 103			

THURSDAY			
CLIPPERS 109, MAVERICKS 103			

THURSDAY			
CLIPPERS 109, MAVERICKS 103			

Three-Point Goals—L.A. Clippers 11-26 (Paul 4-8, Collison 3-4, Crawford 3-7, Dudley 1-1, Barnes 1-5, Granger 0-1), Dallas 10-20 (Carter 4-5, Calderon 3-4, Crowder 1-1, Harris 1-3, Nowitzki 1-5), Houston 0-1, Ellis 0-2), Fouled Out—None, Rebounds—L.A. Clippers 45 (Paul 15), Dallas 22 (Dalember 11), Assists—L.A. Clippers 12 (Paul 8), Dallas 21 (Ellis 7), Total Fouls—L.A. Clippers 24, Dallas 21. Technicals—Barnes, Griffin, Paul, Crowder, 1-1, Houston, A—13-12, 15-12.

Trail Blazers 100, Hawks 85
PORTLAND — Batum 5-10 0-0 12, Lillard 9-21 7-25, Lopez 4-7 3-3 11, Lillard 7-15 3-4 21, Matthews 4-10 0-0 11, Robinson 4-4 2-4 10, Williams 3-9 0-0 8, Barton 1-5 0-1 2, Wright 0-2 0-0 0, Totals 37-80 15-21, 100.

ATLANTA — Carroll 5-6 0-1 11, Millsap 3-4 5-10, Brand 5-10 1-11, Teague 10-18 1-22, Mack 3-9 2-2 5, Muscala 3-9 0-0 6, L. Williams 5-12 2-7 16, Scott 0-3 0-0 0, Schroder 0-2 0-0 0, Totals 34-84 13-17 85.

Portland 22 11 25-100
Three-Point Goals—Portland 10-26 (Lillard 4-9, Matthews 3-6, Batum 2-6, M. Williams 1-2, Barton 0-1, Wright 0-2), Atlanta 4-22 (Carroll 1-2, Mack 1-4, Teague 1-4, L. Williams 1-5, Schroder 0-1), Portland 0-2, Millsap 0-4), Fouled Out—None, Rebounds—Portland 53 (Aldridge 16), Atlanta 49 (Brand 12), Assists—Portland 24 (M. Williams 11), Atlanta 17 (L. Williams, Mack 4), Total Fouls—Portland 20, Atlanta 19, Technicals—Matthews, A—13-22 (18,29).

Bucks 108, Jazz 105
L.A. LAKERS — Johnson 1-2 1-1 3, Hill 13-14 2-28, Kaman 6-12 1-21, Marshall 2-7 0-0 5, Meeks 4-10 0-0 10, Sacre 3-5 2-2 5, Young 6-14 2-12 7, Bazemore 4-7 0-2 9, Henry 2-8 3-4 7, Kelly 1-3 3-3 5, Totals 42-85 14-105.

MILWAUKEE — Middleton 6-9 0-0 14, Adrien 3-8 2-3 8, Pachulia 4-6 2-2 10, Knight 12-21 4-6 30, Sessions 5-10 11-14 22, Henson 3-6 4-7 10, Udoh 2-4 0-0 4, Antetokounmpo 4-6 1-2 10, Totals 39-70 24-108.

L.A. Lakers 30 23 27-105
Milwaukee 26 29 32 21-108
Three-Point Goals—L.A. Lakers 7-21 (Young 3-8, Meeks 2-5, Bazemore 1-1, Marshall 1-2, Kelly 0-1, Johnson 0-1, Henry 0-3), Milwaukee 6-10 (Middleton 2-3, Knight 2-4, Antetokounmpo 1-1, Sessions 1-2), Fouled Out—None, Rebounds—L.A. Lakers 44 (Hill 16), Milwaukee 44 (Adrien 9), Assists—L.A. Lakers 23 (Marshall 7), Milwaukee 15 (Sessions 5), Total Fouls—L.A. Lakers 24, Milwaukee 21, A—15-43 (18,17).

Rockets 120, 76ers 98
PHILADELPHIA — Thompson 2-4 0-0 6, Young 6-16 1-2 15, Sims 6-11 6-18 18, Carter-Williams 11-21 0-0 4, Anderson 11-18 2-20, Varnado 2-2 1-5, Williams 3-9 1-2 8, Nunnally 1-5 0-0 3, West 2-10 1-2 7, Mullens 0-1 0-0 0, Davies 0-3 2-4, Totals 35-90 16-22 98.

HOUSTON — Parsons 7-14 0-0 16, Jones 8-15 2-20, Howard 6-9 5-17, Beverley 1-2 2-5, Harden 9-17 5-6 26, Lin 4-4 4-13, Motiejunas 3-7 0-0 6, Asik 2-4 0-1 4, Hamilton 1-5 0-0 3, Canan 2-6 0-0 5, Cassel 1-5 3-6 5, Totals 49-90 23-34 120.

Philadelphia 28 21 19-98
Houston 35 28 27-120
Three-Point Goals—Philadelphia 14-38 (Anderson 6-11, Thompson 2-3, Young 2-6, West 2-5, Williams 1-1, Nunnally 1-3, Canan 0-1, Mullens 0-1, Carter-Williams 0-3), Houston 9-26 (Harden 3-8, Parsons 4-6, Beverley 1-2, Lin 1-2, Canan 1-3, Hamilton 0-3, Motiejunas 0-2, Jones 0-2), Fouled Out—None, Rebounds—Philadelphia 32 (Young 9), Houston 38 (Howard 13), Assists—Philadelphia 23 (Carter-Williams 10), Houston 27 (Harden 10), Total Fouls—Philadelphia 26, Houston 22, A—18-34 (18,23).



LM OTERO/AP

Mavericks forward Dirk Nowitzki drives against the Clippers' Blake Griffin (32) Thursday in Dallas. Nowitzki had 21 points, but only two in the fourth quarter as Los Angeles rallied to a 109-103 victory.

NCAA TOURNAMENT

Wildcats
hold off
Aztecs

By BETH HARRIS
The Associated Press

ANAHEIM, Calif. — Nick Johnson put an awful first half behind him and came up big for Arizona in the final 2:45.

The Pac-12 player of the year scored all of his 15 points over that span after missing his first 10 shots, and helped Arizona hold off San Diego State 70-64 on Thursday night to reach the final eight of the NCAA tournament.

"When I hit one shot it just started to feel a little bit better," he said. "I just kept on hitting shots."

Mostly, Johnson hit free throws, making all 10 of his attempts to go with a field goal and a three-pointer after the Aztecs shut him down for the first 37 minutes.

"He just exploded in the second half," said San Diego State's Dwayne Polee, who guarded Johnson. "I can't say that we didn't play hard defense, but he just made a lot of good shots."

Aaron Gordon and Rondae Hollis-Jefferson scored 15 points each for the top-seeded Wildcats (33-4), who will try to win a West regional final for the first time in Anaheim. They're 0-3 at Honda Center going into Saturday's game against second-seeded Wisconsin (29-7).

Xavier Thames scored 25 points and Polee added 13 points for the Aztecs (31-5). Those two tried to bail out SDSU in the final minute, each hitting three-pointers before Thames' basket cut the deficit to 65-61 with 38 seconds left.

The Aztecs were trying to reach the final eight for the first time in school history under 69-year-old coach Steve Fisher.

"One of these days we're going to get to a Final Four," Fisher said.



MARK J. TERRILL/AP

Arizona forward Rondae Hollis-Jefferson drives to the basket during the first half of Thursday's West Region semifinal against San Diego State in Anaheim, Calif.

Dayton
rolls past
Stanford

By DAVID BRANDT
The Associated Press

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Like a red and blue blur, the Dayton Flyers were pressing and passing, shooting and scoring. The waves never seemed to stop coming, with 10, 11 and then 12 players giving them good-quality minutes.

An exhausted and foul-plagued Stanford simply couldn't keep up.

The underdog Flyers — the No. 11 seed in the South Region — are now in the Elite Eight for the first time since 1984 after an emphatic 82-72 victory Thursday night.

"We had 11 guys score in the game and from top to bottom, we kept coming and coming," Dayton coach Archie Miller said. "The way they shared the ball and moved the ball ... it was a true team effort. It's nice that on the biggest stage, we acted like ourselves."

Jordan Sibert scored 18 points and freshman Kendall Pollard added a season-high 12 as Dayton (26-10) made sure this one wasn't particularly close after slipping by in the first two rounds. The 6-foot-4 Sibert was spectacular, slashing to the basket and draining three-pointers, to help the Flyers lead for almost the entire night.

Dayton showed its depth early, using a dozen players in the first half to wear down Stanford.

"They were relentless," Cardinal coach Johnny Dawkins said. "That's the best way I can put it."

No. 10 seed Stanford (23-13) had the superior post play, but it wasn't enough. Chasson Randle led the Cardinal with 21 points, but shot 5-for-21 from the field. Dwight Powell added 17 and Stefan Nastic — who fouled out with more than five minutes left — had 15.

Sibert finished 7-for-12 from the field, including 4-for-9 from three-point range. He had plenty of help, including from Pollard, a 6-foot-6 guard who continually got to the basket and helped the Flyers stretch their lead in the first half.

Millers: Is an all-brothers championship game in the cards?

FROM BACK PAGE

Already the first brothers to coach separate teams into the Sweet 16, they're now a game away from the Final Four and, dare we say it, an all-brothers championship game in Texas.

"We're both alive," Sean said. Archie's Flyers weren't supposed to be here.

The 11th seed in the South Region, they opened the first full day of the tournament with a bracket-crumples win over Ohio State and proved it was no fluke by taking down Syracuse to reach the second weekend.

Not satisfied with that, Dayton took it to another favorite in one of the early games Thursday night, using its 12-deep roster to wear down No. 10 seed Stanford 82-72 in a third-straight upset.

Next up for the Flyers is a date with top overall seed Florida on Saturday.

"It was a true team effort," Archie said. "That's what they've been about all year, so it's nice to see on the biggest stage, us be ourselves."

The Wildcats weren't themselves until the game was on the line, which, in a way, is just being themselves.

Arizona (33-4) labored most of the game against San Diego State, burned by offensive rebounds in the first half and unable to get some of its best players going.

The Wildcats have had a knack for wearing teams down by the end of games and they did it again against the Aztecs, pulling out a 70-64 victory after Nick Johnson scored all 15 of his points in the final 2:45.

Arizona moves on to face another defense-oriented team in the Elite Eight, against Wisconsin Saturday night in Southern California.



MARK HUMPHREY/AP

Dayton head coach Archie Miller yells instructions to his players during Thursday's South Region semifinal against Stanford in Memphis, Tenn. Dayton won the game to advance to the Elite Eight.

NCAA TOURNAMENT



JESSICA HILL/AP

Connecticut's Kiah Stokes blocks a shot attempt by Prairie View A&M's LaReahn Washington (0), as Connecticut's Kaleena Mosqueda-Lewis and Stefanie Dolson (31) defend during their first-round NCAA tournament game last Sunday in Storrs, Conn.

Secret to their success

Huskies' dominance starts with lock-down defense

By Pat Eaton-Robb
The Associated Press

STORRS, Conn. — Connecticut's opponents spend a lot of time trying to figure out how to slow the Huskies' offense. A bigger challenge may be finding a way to score on the nation's top-ranked women's team.

UConn (36-0) goes into Saturday's regional semifinal against BYU (28-6) holding opponents to an average of 47 points a game. The next best defense, Presbyterian,

gave up 53.5 this season. The Huskies also are at the top of the list when it comes to shooting defense, with opponents making just 30.4 percent of their shots.

"Our philosophy has always been, if we play great defense we're going to have a chance to win every single game," UConn coach Geno Auriemma said. "Then we're going to let our offense dictate how much we're going to win by."

In his first few seasons, he said, the Huskies were holding teams to 55 points a game, and losing 55-50.

This season, they are scoring an average of more than 83 points, and winning by an average of 36. The nation's other unde-

feated team, Notre Dame, ranks second in that category, with an average margin of victory of just over 26 points.

Auriemma believes his team's defensive numbers have been inflated a bit this season because of the lopsided scores. A lot of teams, he said, become unhinged while trying to match UConn basket for basket.

And because UConn is so good in transition, opponents often get just one shot each trip down the floor, conceding the rebound to get back on defense. UConn out-rebounds opponents by about 10 boards each game. The Huskies also have won the turnover battle (614-428) by stealing the ball 344 times and blocking 293 shots, leading the nation at more than eight blocks a game.

"For us, everything starts on the defensive end," said senior Stefanie Dolson, the AAC's defensive player of the year. "We take so much pride in that. We try not to give up anything easy."

"Our philosophy has always been, if we play great defense we're going to have a chance to win every single game."

Geno Auriemma
Connecticut head coach

Scoreboard

Men's tournament

East Region

Second Round

Thursday, March 20
At Buffalo, N.Y.
UConn 89, Saint Joseph's 81, OT
Villanova 73, Milwaukee 62
At Spokane, Wash.
Harvard 61, Cincinnati 57
Michigan 51, 93, Delaware 78

Friday, March 21

At Raleigh, N.C.
Memphis 71, George Washington 66
Virginia 70, Coastal Carolina 59
At San Antonio
North Carolina 79, Providence 77
Iowa St. 93, North Carolina Central 75

Third Round

Saturday, March 22
At Buffalo, N.Y.
Connecticut 77, Villanova 65
At Spokane, Wash.
Michigan St. 80, Harvard 73
Sunday, March 23
At Raleigh, N.C.
Virginia 78, Memphis 60

Regional Semifinals

At San Antonio
Iowa State 85, North Carolina 83
Friday, March 28
UConn (28-8) vs. Iowa State (28-7)
Michigan State (28-6) vs. Virginia (30-6)

Regional Championship

Sunday, March 30
Winners

Semifinal winners

South Region

Second Round

Thursday, March 20
At Buffalo, N.Y.
Dayton 60, Ohio St. 59
Syracuse 77, Western Michigan 53
At Orlando, Fla.
Pittsburgh 77, Colorado 48
Florida 67, Albany (N.Y.) 55

Friday, March 21

At St. Louis
Stanford 58, New Mexico 53
Kansas 80, Eastern Kentucky 69
Friday, March 21
UCLA 76, Tulsa 59

Third Round

Saturday, March 22
At Buffalo, N.Y.
Dayton 55, Syracuse 53
At Orlando, Fla.
Florida 61, Pittsburgh 45
Sunday, March 23
At St. Louis
Stanford 60, Kansas 57

Regional Semifinals

At San Diego
UCLA 77, Stephen F. Austin 69
At Memphis, Tenn.
Dayton 82, Stanford 72
Friday, March 27
Florida 79, UCLA 68

Regional Championship

Saturday, March 29
Dayton (26-10) vs. Florida (35-2)

Midwest Region

Second Round

Thursday, March 20
At Orlando, Fla.
Saint Louis 81, N.C. State 80, OT
Louisville 71, Manhattan 44
At Milwaukee
Michigan 57, Wofford 40
Texas 87, Arizona St. 85

Friday, March 21

At Raleigh, N.C.
Mercer 78, Duke 71
Tennessee 86, Massachusetts 67
At St. Louis
Wichita St. 64, Cal Poly 37
Kentucky 56, Kansas St. 49

Third Round

Saturday, March 22
At Orlando, Fla.
Louisville 66, Saint Louis 51
At Milwaukee
Michigan 79, Texas 65
Sunday, March 23
At Raleigh, N.C.
Tennessee 83, Mercer 63

Regional Semifinals

Kentucky 78, Wichita State 76
Indiana 67, St. John's 51
Friday, March 28
Michigan (27-8) vs. Tennessee (24-12)
Kentucky (26-10) vs. Louisville (31-5)

Regional Championship

Sunday, March 30
Semifinal winners

West Region

Second Round

Thursday, March 20
At Milwaukee
Wisconsin 75, American 35
Oregon 67, BYU 68
At Spokane, Wash.
North Dakota St. 80, Oklahoma 75, OT
San Diego St. 73, New Mexico St. 69, OT

Friday, March 21

At San Antonio
Baylor 74, Nebraska 60
Creighton 76, Louisiana-Lafayette 66
At San Diego
Arizona 68, Weber St. 59
Gonzaga 85, Oklahoma St. 77

Third Round

Saturday, March 22
At Milwaukee
Wisconsin 89, Oregon 77
At Spokane, Wash.
San Diego St. 63, North Dakota St. 44
Sunday, March 23
At San Antonio
Baylor 85, Creighton 55

At San Diego

Regional Semifinals

At Anaheim, Calif.

Thursday, March 27

Wisconsin 69, Baylor 52

Arizona 70, San Diego State 64

Regional Championship

Saturday, March 29

Wisconsin (29-7) vs. Arizona (33-4)

Final Four

At Arlington, Texas

National Semifinals

Saturday, April 5

East champion vs. South champion

Midwest champion vs. West champion

National Championship

Monday, April 7

Semifinal winners

Women's tournament

Lincoln Region

Second Round

Monday, March 24

At Los Angeles

BYU 80, Nebraska 76

At Durham, N.C.

DePaul 74, Duke 65

Tuesday, March 25

At Storrs, Conn.

UConn 91, Saint Joseph's 59

At College Station, Texas

Texas A&M 85, James Madison 69

Regional Semifinals

At Lincoln, Neb.

Saturday, March 29

UConn (36-0) vs. BYU (28-6)

DePaul (29-6) vs. Texas A&M (26-8)

Monday, March 31

Regional Championship

Semifinal winners

Stanford Region

Second Round

Monday, March 24

At Ames, Iowa

Stanford 63, Florida State 44

Tuesday, March 25

At Seattle

South Carolina 78, Oregon State 69

At Chapel Hill, N.C.

North Carolina 62, Michigan State 53

At State College, Pa.

Penn State 83, Florida 61

Regional Semifinals

At Stanford, Calif.

Sunday, March 30

Stanford (30-3) vs. Penn State (24-7)

South Carolina (25-4) vs. North Carolina (26-9)

Regional Championship

Tuesday, April 1

Semifinal winners

Notre Dame Region

Second Round

Monday, March 24

At Toledo, Ohio

Notre Dame 84, Arizona State 67

At West Lafayette, Ind.

Oklahoma State 73, Purdue 66

At Lexington, Ky.

Kentucky 64, Syracuse 59

At Waco, Texas

Baylor 75, California 56

Regional Semifinals

At Notre Dame, Ind.

Saturday, March 29

Kentucky (26-9) vs. Baylor (31-4)

Notre Dame (28-0) vs. Oklahoma State

Regional Championship

Monday, March 31

Semifinal winners

Louisville Region

Second Round

Monday, March 24

At Knoxville, Tenn.

Tennessee 67, St. John's 51

Tuesday, March 25

At College Park, Md.

Maryland 69, Texas 64

At Iowa City, Iowa

Louisville 83, Iowa 53

At Baton Rouge, La.

LSU 76, West Virginia 67

Regional Semifinals

At Louisville, Ky.

Sunday, March 30

Tennessee (28-5) vs. Maryland (26-6)

Louisville (32-4) vs. LSU (21-12)

Regional Championship

Tuesday, April 1

Semifinal winners

Final Four

At Nashville, Tenn.

National Semifinals

Lincoln regional champion vs. Stanford regional champion

Notre Dame regional champion vs. Louisville regional champion

Sunday, April 6

National Championship

Tuesday, April 8

Semifinal winners

NCAA TOURNAMENT

Gators advance, extend win streak to 29

Fourth straight Elite Eight appearance for top-seeded Florida

By TERESA M. WALKER
The Associated Press

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — The Florida Gators are back where their last three seasons have ended with yet another chance to go to the Final Four.

Being in the Elite Eight again, though, simply isn't enough.

Michael Frazier II hit five three-pointers and finished with 19 points as the Gators beat UCLA 79-68 Thursday night to reach their fourth consecutive NCAA regional final.

"We just talked about it, and it's not enough for us," Florida senior Will Yeguete said. "We have two days to get ready for a good team, and we're just going to go for it on Saturday."

The Gators (35-2) also extended the best winning streak in school history to 29 straight in reaching the South regional final.

"From a team aspect, I think we've done a great job of just staying in the moment and just trying to chase greatness," Frazier said. "When you do that, complacency isn't a factor so I think we've done a great job all year of just staying in the moment and chasing greatness."

The tournament's overall top seed will play 11th-seeded Dayton on Saturday night for a trip to the Final Four. Dayton beat Stanford 82-72 earlier Thursday night.

"Right now we got to put this game behind us and get focused on Dayton," Florida senior Scottie Wilbekin said. "They're



MARK HUMPHREY/AP

Florida's Will Yeguete blocks a shot by UCLA's Tony Parker during Thursday's regional semifinal in Memphis, Tenn.

a great team. Everybody is at this point in the season, and so we got to be locked in and ready because it's going to be a battle."

Wilbekin added 13 points for Florida. Casey Prather had 12 points, and Dorian Finney-Smith had 10. Kasey Hill had 10 assists. The Gators have not lost since Dec. 2.

The Gators lost to Michigan a year ago in a regional final.

"But it's a new team that we have, and we're playing a new team so it's a totally

different situation," Wilbekin said. "We're just excited to get this win and move onto the next game. We're totally focused on that. The past has no impact."

UCLA (28-9) was back in a regional semifinal for the first time since 2008 under first-year coach Steve Alford. But the Bruins just couldn't match Florida's physical defense or outshoot the Gators. UCLA now is 0-4 against Florida coach Billy Donovan all-time — all in the NCAA tournament.

"They played very well," Alford said of

the Gators. "They are an outstanding basketball team."

Florida shot 50 percent for the game (29-for-58), including 59.3 percent in the second half. UCLA finished 42.2 percent (27-for-64) shooting in only their fifth game scoring under 70 points this season. The Bruins were a cold 1-for-12 beyond the arc in the second half.

Jordan Adams led the Bruins with 17 points, Kyle Anderson had 11 and five assists with nine rebounds. Travis Wear added 14.



MARK J. TERRILL/AP

Wisconsin's Frank Kaminsky, front, and Baylor's Cory Jefferson chase the ball during Thursday's regional semifinal in Anaheim, Calif.

Badgers blow out Bears

By GREG BEACHAM
The Associated Press

ANAHEIM, Calif. — Ben Brust and his Wisconsin teammates got oodles of open shots while they sliced and diced Baylor's vaunted zone defense. When the Bears had the ball, 7-foot Frank Kaminsky always seemed to be right in their way.

Brust, Kaminsky and their teammates realize they dominated Baylor in a 69-52 victory Thursday night because of a coach who puts them in the right spots.

Bo Ryan has never been to college basketball's final weekend, but the Badgers are thrilled to put him on the brink.

"That would be a very special thing to do, but we also know that he's not going to let us look too far ahead," said Brust, who scored 14 points. "When that time comes, we'll handle it. I'd definitely like to do that for him."

Kaminsky scored 19 points and blocked six shots while Wisconsin romped into the West regional final, reaching the final eight for the third time in school history.

Brust hit three of the six three-pointers from the second-seeded Badgers (29-7), who jumped to a 14-point lead in the first half and

Did you know

Wisconsin coach Bo Ryan has a 703-223 career record, but has never advanced past the Elite Eight in the NCAA tournament.



SOURCE: The Associated Press; UWBadgers.com

never let up on the overmatched Bears (26-12).

Kaminsky and his disciplined teammates shredded the Baylor zone that played so well in the first two games. Wisconsin also methodically shut down Baylor's talented offense while moving into its second regional final in 13 years under Ryan, who has seen just about everything except the Final Four in a 700-win coaching career.

"I'd be honored to be a part of that," Kaminsky said.

Wisconsin advanced to the regional final Saturday against

top-seeded Arizona. The Badgers haven't been to the Final Four since retired coach Dick Bennett got them there in 2000.

The Badgers advanced by countering everything the Bears do well. Wisconsin wrecked Baylor's zone, negated its three-point shooting acumen with perimeter defense, kept the tempo at the Badgers' preferred speed and even held a 39-33 rebounding edge on Baylor, one of the nation's top rebounding teams.

Ryan put on a bit of a coaching clinic, but that's nothing new. The Wisconsin folk hero has led the Badgers to NCAA tournament berths in each of his 13 seasons, but only got this close to the Final Four in 2005.

"We get 40 more minutes, and I'm awfully proud of them," Ryan said.

Kaminsky added another remarkable performance to his junior season with the Badgers, racking up 10 points and four blocked shots while Wisconsin took a 29-16 lead into halftime. Wisconsin held Baylor to a season-low in first-half points.

Cory Jefferson scored 15 points for the sixth-seeded Bears in their third Sweet 16 trip in five years.

SPORTS

**Dubious distinction**

76ers drop 26th straight, tie record for consecutive losses | **NBA, Page 28**

NCAA TOURNAMENT

Brothers in arms

Sean and Archie Miller have their respective teams in the Elite Eight

By JOHN MARSHALL
The Associated Press

Sean and Archie Miller are headed to the Elite Eight together.

One had it easier than the other — and it probably wasn't the one you'd expect.

Archie's Dayton Flyers, the darlings of the 2014 NCAA tournament, took down another higher-seeded team, stiff-arming Stanford in Memphis on Thursday night to reach the regional final for the first time since 1984.

Big brother Sean's Arizona Wildcats, the top seed in the West, had a much tougher time getting through, laboring through most of their game against San Diego State before wearing down the Aztecs in Anaheim, Calif., to reach the Elite Eight for the second time in four years.

SEE MILLERS ON PAGE 29

Did you know

Already the first set of brothers to take teams to the Sweet Sixteen in the same year, Sean and Archie Miller made history again Thursday by taking those teams to the Elite Eight.



SOURCE: The Associated Press

**Inside:**

- Wisconsin has easy time with Baylor, Page 31
- No. 1 seed Florida wins 29th straight, Page 31

Head coach Sean Miller has Arizona, the top seed in the West Region, back in the Elite Eight for the second time in four years.

LENNY IGONELZI/AP

Bergeron scores twice as Bruins blank Blackhawks
NHL, Page 26

Tigers make Cabrera highest-paid player in league
MLB, Page 25